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Joel S. Livingston



A HISTORY  
OF  
JASPER COUNTY  
MISSOURI

and Its People

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BY  
JOEL T. LIVINGSTON

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VOLUME I

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ILLUSTRATED

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## INTRODUCTION

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In presenting this volume to the public, the writer begs leave to make the following introductory announcements and explanations.

In gathering the data for the history, a vast amount of interesting matter was collected, and had we utilized it all, a book would have been created twice the size of the one offered. It was thought, therefore, that a more condensed history giving a sufficient number of stories in each of the several periods to correctly represent the habits, manners and customs of the people during each of the epochs and the events which helped to mold the destinies of the county, would be most appreciated by the public. It was difficult at times to determine just which facts to include and which to omit, and some events which we desired to mention at length were omitted because we were unable to secure accurate and complete data for their narration.

The matter for the history has been obtained from the following sources: Personal interviews with old-time citizens of the county; replies to letters addressed to different well informed citizens; scrap books saved by lovers of historic information and the newspaper files that were preserved.

To each and all who have so kindly given us data for the work, we wish to here return our most sincere and heartfelt thanks. We are especially indebted to the following: To John Nelson, of Carl Junction, for the loan of a file of the *Weekly Carthage Banner* covering the period of the later sixties, the seventies and the early eighties; to the *Carthage Press* and the *Joplin Daily News-Herald*, whose editors both kindly placed their valuable files at our disposal; to the Joplin Public Library for the loan of the early files of the *Daily Herald* covering the later seventies and the eighties; to Charles Ebert, of Los Angeles, California, who forwarded to us from the far golden west, a most excellent and systematically kept scrap book of Webb City and Cartersville events which happened during the eighties and early nineties. We found this information invaluable for the reason that the early files of the Webb City and Cartersville papers had not been preserved.

There is one feature of our work which is not as complete as we had originally intended it to be, to-wit: the lodge and church chapters. In view of this we deem it proper to make a special explanation relative to these two important parts of the history. The statement briefly made is this: In May, 1911, we mailed out something like fifty letters to the

pastors of different churches in the county, asking them to assist the author in collecting the historic material for the church story. To these letters less than one-half replied and not having access to the records, we could not make as complete a church story as we had hoped to do. In like manner, some of the lodges of the county failed to provide us with desired information and mention of them was necessarily abbreviated. However, we did not neglect the important part of the history, but obtained much information regarding the societies that did not respond to our request from the newspapers, mention being made of their several organizations.

We believe that the information herein contained is authentic,—at least, we have used every effort to make it so, and if inaccuracies have crept into the book, it is because we have been misinformed.

Again thanking the many persons who have assisted us in gathering the materials for the stories herein contained, we beg to be

Respectfully,

JOEL T. LIVINGSTON.

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Pioneer Period  
to  
Civil War Era





# History of Jasper County

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## CHAPTER I

### COUNTY TAKING FORM

EARLY EXPLORATIONS—EDMUND JENNINGS—CIVIL DIVISIONS PRIOR TO  
COUNTY ORGANIZATION—THE COUNTY NAMED—THE FIRST SETTLERS  
—CAVE SPRINGS—A FEW OF THE "FIRSTS"—PIONEER LIFE—LOG  
RAISING—THE SPANISH CARAVAN—EARLY METHOD OF FILING ON  
LAND—GAME AND WILD ANIMALS.

The history of Jasper county covers five distinct periods of growth—the pioneer period, the county during the Civil war, the reconstruction days, the reopening of the mines after the war and the subsequent development of the county's resources.

It is full of exciting incidents and is important because it tells a story of progress, and in perpetuating the names and deeds which have helped to mold the destinies of the great middle west, we serve the future generations by holding high the lamp of experience which has guided an active and energetic people along the pathway of success.

#### EARLY EXPLORATIONS

Tradition has it that DeSoto spent the winter of 1541 in the territory north and west of the Ozark mountains and during his stay in this region camped in and around Jasper county. It is believed by many that lead was discovered by the Spaniards and there is evidence that mining was carried on in southwest Missouri many years before the discoveries of David Campbell, but there is no authentic account of the movements of the great explorer and his discoveries counted for naught, because he left no record, save the old trail which served as a path to lead the hardy pioneers in search of homes westward to the land of promise.

## EDMUND JENNINGS

The first white man to explore southwest Missouri, and whose explorations led to the settlement of the great region beyond the Ozarks, was Edmund Jennings, a native of North Carolina but later a citizen of Tennessee. Jennings came of a splendid family, but was of a roving and adventuresome disposition. He loved excitement and enjoyed the strenuous out-of-door life which gives endurance and nerves man to combat danger. He had read of the adventures of Daniel Boone and Simon Kenton and resolved to go to the undiscovered country beyond the "Father of Waters" and there answer the "call of the wild." So bidding his friends in Jackson county, Tennessee, a fond farewell, he crossed the Mississippi and pushed westward along the old trail until he crossed the Ozarks and came to what was called by the Indians the "Country of the Six Bulls."

The origin of the name "Six Bulls" is shrouded in uncertainty, some of the old settlers holding that it was so called in honor of a mighty hunter who had once here killed six monster buffaloes all noted for their size and strength, but Judge John C. Cox one of the first settlers of Jasper county and an intimate friend of Edmund Jennings, says that the name was incorrectly called bulls, but in broken English the Indians had called it "The Six Boils" (pronounced like "bulls"), meaning the land of the six rushing rivers. The Indian name for river being boil and that the six boils or rivers referred to were the Cow-skin river, Shoal creek, Indian creek, Center creek, Spring river and the North Fork.

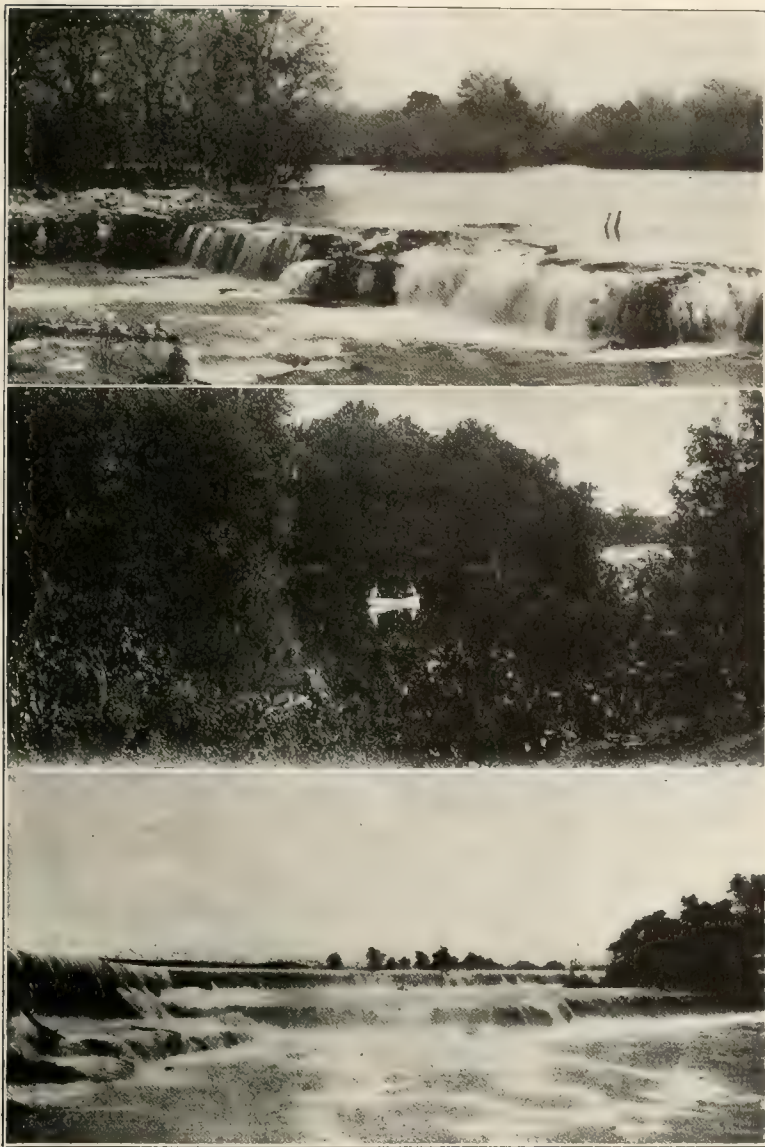
Edmund Jennings lived with the Indians and trapped and hunted over the Country of the Six Bulls for about fifteen years. At length (the date is not certain), about the close of the 'twenties, he began to long for the friends in the Old North state and turned his footsteps eastward and after a perilous journey reached his Tennessee home. He had been so long away from civilization that it was with difficulty he could make himself understood. His friends who had long supposed him dead did not at first recognize him as he approached them, clothed in fur-skins and leather moccasins. The news of his arrival soon spread over the county and friends came for miles to see him and hear of his adventures.

The hearty welcome given him by his old companions gave him a new lease on life and memories of the old days soon brought back the mother tongue, and he told them of the wonderful beauty and richness of the Country of the Six Bulls, and as a result of his description of the region a colony of Tennessee people came to this county early in the 'thirties.

## CIVIL DIVISION PRIOR TO COUNTY ORGANIZATION

When Missouri became a state all of southwest Missouri was made a county and was called Crawford county, the seat of justice being at Little Pliny on the Gasconade river.





THREE OF THE SIX "BULLS" (BOILS)

Later Greene county was carved from Crawford and embraced all of the territory from the Osage river on the north to the Arkansas line on the south and from the present eastern limits of Greene to Kansas on the west. The county seat of Greene county, then as now, was at Springfield.

Barry county was next taken from Greene and included the seven southwest Missouri counties. The county seat was at Mount Pleasant near the present site of Pierce City.

As civilization moved west Jasper county was organized and in time outshone its mother county in wealth and importance.

The old settlers of Jasper county used to say in a joking way that they had lived in four counties but had never moved once.

At the general election in August, 1838, Littlebury Mason was elected representative for Barry county in the general assembly and secured the passage of a bill dividing Barry county into four divisions, taking out of Barry, Dade, Newton and Jasper. Jasper county included in its territory Barton on the north and Newton county included the present county of McDonald on the south.

Jasper county was not at this session of the legislature raised to the full dignity of a county, but was for civil and military purposes attached to Newton county which was at once fully organized.

In 1840 John Wilson was elected to represent Newton county. Among the first bills introduced by him was one to complete the organization of Jasper county by designating proper officials and courts to put the machinery of county government in operation. This bill passed the legislature January 29, 1841, and the county was fully organized as a civil division March 8th which will be more fully treated in succeeding pages.

#### THE COUNTY NAMED

That the pioneer Missourians were patriots is shown by the names of the municipalities and other civil divisions given by the early settlers. Many of the historic incidents dear to the hearts of every American and the names of the heroes who made freedom a reality are daily kept in mind by the names of the counties of the state. Among the Revolutionary patriots we find the names of Washington, Franklin, Schuyler, Marion, Putnam, Greene, Jasper and others.

The story of Sergeant Jasper and his gallantry at Fort Moultrie is one of the incidents of the Revolution which lends a charm to the recital of that splendid fight for freedom. At the close of the day and after several hours of fierce cannonading, the staff from which floated the old pine tree flag was severed by a ball and the colors fell on the outside of the fort. Sergeant Jasper sprang over the ramparts and amidst a veritable hail-storm of bullets from the British fusileers secured the flag and, fastening it to a cannon rammer, placed it securely on the ramparts again and with a shout of triumph regained the breast-



works while the cheers of his comrades proclaimed him the hero of the day.

#### THE FIRST SETTLERS

The first permanent settler in Jasper county was Thackery Vivion who came from Kentucky in 1831 and located near the Sarcoxie Spring, a romantic spot where the Indian Chief Sarcoxie had during the later days of the Indian period made his headquarters and which no doubt was the gathering point of the "noble red men of the forest" from the Country of the Six Bulls and where perhaps the warriors in council decided the fate of many a luckless traveler who fell into their hands. The word Sarcoxie in the Indian vernacular means "the Rising Sun." And it is significant that the sun of a new civilization which rose with the coming of Thackery Vivion should have made its first appearance at the tepee of a chief who was the last of his race.

And although the Indian supremacy faded away with the coming of the white man a new sun rose to shine for them; a sun of education, civilization and progress which made many of them in the sister state of Oklahoma, citizens and, in some cases, officeholders and statesmen.

Thackery Vivion built his log house near the spring at the foot of the hill just east of the Sarcoxie depot. He soon had a nice farm in cultivation. He built a small water power log mill on the present site of the Victor Mills. He also built a saw-mill. He took an active part in the political life of the county, being a member of the first grand jury assembled at the organization of the county and in many other ways took a part in public enterprises. In 1838 he moved from Sarcoxie to the western part of the county and entered the land where the famous Lehigh mines were afterward opened. He left the county in 1844 on an exploring expedition into the lands of the south and died while on this trip. His descendants still live in the county, honored and respected citizens, who, like the founder of the family, are shrewd business men and women.

A few months after Thackery Vivion came to the county John M. Fullerton, also a native of Tennessee, came to the Sarcoxie Spring and settled near Mr. Vivion. Mr. Fullerton lived on a farm near Sarcoxie for eighteen years, dying in 1850.

Samuel Powers, another Tennessean, came to the neighborhood in 1832. Jackson Mills and A. Hodge both from Kentucky, also came to the settlement in 1832.

During 1833 a dozen families joined the colony and gave it an air of permanency.

Among the settlers who came in 1833 were the following—E. W. Beasley, Joseph and Samuel Melugen, Dr. Abner Wilson, J. P. Boyd, Ephraim Beasley, Hiram Handford, E. Jenkins, Thomas Boxley, Tyron Gibson, William Gibson; Abraham Onstott, the father of "honest John Onstott," who won this title during the Civil war by his acts relating to



the county treasurer's office; and J. N. U. Sealey. Mr. Sealey still resides in the county and is the oldest living settler.

Jenkins creek is named for Ephraim Jenkins who settled at the head of that beautiful little stream. Tyron Gibson made his home on the present site of the High Hill schoolhouse. The Onstotts settled in Jackson township on Center creek.

1834 saw a considerable growth; among the new comers were William Tingle of Maryland and Ben F. Massey from Kentucky, both of whom exerted an influence in a business way which gave the new settlement importance as a trading center.

Messrs. Massey and Tingle opened a general store at Sarcoxie which catered to the trade for miles around. They bought the Vivion log mill and greatly enlarged its grinding facilities. The old mill was used up to 1872 when the Victor mills were erected on the old mill site. Mr. Tingle built the first lead furnace in the county. He was a busy, active man up to the time of his death.

#### CAVE SPRINGS

In the early settlement of the county, Cave Springs, east of Sarcoxie, was the great camping point, and sometimes as many as twenty families would be camped there while the head of the family went in search of a good location for the new home.

#### A FEW OF THE "FIRSTS"

The first marriage celebrated in the county was that of Moses Powers and Miss Boyd which occurred in 1834.

The first child born in the county was John Powers, a son of Samuel Powers.

The first minister was Andrew Buckhanon, a member of the Christian denomination. The first church to be organized, however, was the Freedom Baptist church in Union township. A more extended mention of this church will be found elsewhere.

The first lawyer was John R. Chenault. Mr. Chenault became circuit judge in 1857. During the agitation which preceded the Civil war he was an advocate of the cause of the south. He was a member of the convention called to consider the relations of the state with the Federal Government. During the war he espoused the cause of the Confederacy.

The first store was kept by Dr. Abner Wilson and the first post-office was opened at Sarcoxie in 1833. Mail was brought at long intervals from Little Pliny on the Gasconade, one hundred and fifty miles away. It is hard for us who are accustomed to the railroad, the electric cars and automobile to comprehend what a journey of one hundred and fifty miles across the country in those days meant. Then, with only a trail for a road, no bridges, and streams sometimes impassable

except to swim, with only the patient oxen or the faithful horse, a trip to the county seat and return was a week or ten days' journey.

Up to this time Sarcoxie was called Centerville, being then at almost the geographical center of old Barry county.

When the application was made for the establishment of the post-office it was found that there was another town in Missouri called Centerville, and that it would be necessary to select another name.

The old spring was known as the Sarcoxie spring, and the old Chief Sarcoxie had lived there before the days of the white man's supremacy; so it was thought to be an appropriate name for the new town, which was accordingly christened Sarcoxie.

### PIONEER LIFE

There is something romantic about the life of the pioneer.

Here noble deeds and unobtrusive acts of bravery are counted the standard by which men are measured.

Here, as a matter of necessity, neighbors are friends and the comradeship which comes of having braved dangers together is warmed into a bond of sympathy which makes friendship akin to love.

Here, too, nature is seen in all of its grandeur. The broad prairie with its wealth of fragrant flowers and sweet scented grasses; the hundreds of little friends in feather and fur; the forest with its monarch oak and its stately pine; the pure air and the clear waters, all lend a charm and a beauty that compensate for the lack of the comforts of the old home and give an individuality to the life of the new settler, which cultivates a love of freedom and at the same time makes him more loving and tender because of the kindness of his friends.

Until the 'forties not a single house in Jasper county had been built more than two miles from the timber; this was very natural, as there was no lumber with which to build; the houses were built of logs and as a matter of convenience were erected near the timber.

Ordinarily the log house of the 'thirties and 'forties consisted of two large apartments with a large fireplace in each room. The fireplace was an immense affair and before the advent of stoves was used for both heating and cooking purposes. Every woman was a good cook and the corn bread was the delicacy which every housewife prided herself on being able to make; so good that it would tempt even the gods.

In the home was found the loom where a very good quality of butternut jeans was woven, and this was the cloth of quality.

Every man and most of the women were expert shots, and in the first season before the crop was raised almost the entire family subsistence consisted of the wild game which was abundant and conveniently brought itself to the door. During the 'thirties there were no schools or churches. What little learning was had was by private instruction, and the Gospel was preached at intervals, either in the home of some good man or at an occasional camp-meeting.

The Indians, during the 'thirties, were plentiful but were for the most part friendly, and made war on nothing except the smoke-house and the corn-crib.

#### LOG RAISING

As a matter of necessity the people of the pioneer period were sociable, and it was customary among the old timers to help the new-comer build his home. These occasions were called "log raisings," and at these the neighbors assembled at the place where the house was to be built and helped cut the trees and hew the logs that were to go in the structure. When they were put in form they helped raise the logs in place. Up to as late as the 'fifties these gatherings were popular, and many a man felt kindlier to his neighbor for these demonstrations of good will.

#### THE SPANISH CARAVAN

The following little story is one of the traditional incidents which has been handed down to us from the pioneers and although unauthenticated by any written evidence is still interesting because it illustrates, in a way, the dangers that were encountered by the explorers who first invaded the hunting grounds of the Indians.

During the rule of Delassus, the last of the Spanish governors for the Louisiana Territory, a party of fortune hunters was organized at St. Louis for the purpose of making a trip to Mexico hoping to secure some of the wealth of the Montezumas.

The caravan left St. Louis in great pomp and made its way to Mexico, passing through the Country of the Six Bulls en route.

The expedition was successful and a goodly sum of the Mexican gold was secured, after which the party started on its return trip. Arriving in the southwest country in the early spring, they stopped for a while to rest and refresh themselves by one of the picturesque springs near the present site of Sarcxie and believed by many to be the beautiful spring on the farm of Stephen Hood in Sarcxie township.

While here the explorers were attacked by a large band of Indians and almost exterminated, only a few escaping with their lives. This stop in the Country of the Six Bulls was one of many such rests, it being necessary at times to halt and secure food and repair the equipments. It was the custom on these stops to secrete the treasure and it is believed by many that it was buried or safely hidden in one of the numerous ledges overhanging the Big spring. The few who made their escape, after weeks of perilous journey on foot, made their way back to St. Louis and there told the story of the awful massacre. In 1837 a party came from St. Louis to hunt for the gold but none was ever found and Mr. Hood, who owns the farm, never gave credence to the story, believing that the Indians took all of value that was left in the camp.

The Spring on the Hood farm is one of the most romantic and pie-

turesque spots in the county and its location could easily be described; it is an ideal place for a camping party—the cool water from the spring running out from the hillside forming the headwaters of one of the numerous spring-fed streams that flow into Center creek; the great trees making a veritable canopy of green overhead and the steep embankment rising on the south and west making a cool and quiet retreat; while the wide plateau sloping away to the southwest makes an excellent place for the sentinel to guard against the approach of an enemy from that direction.

#### EARLY METHOD OF FILING LAND

The first settlers who came to the county could not perfect title to their lands on which they settled because the land had not been surveyed by the government, nor offered for sale to the public. In 1836 a partial survey of the county was made which included the land as far west as range 30, about three miles east of Carthage; thereupon quite a bit of land was entered in the eastern portion of the county and in due time the title perfected.

The survey was completed in 1844 and it was at this date that the settlers began in great numbers to make the proper filings to secure title to their lands.

The government land office was at Springfield and to go there and back required from a week to ten days, depending on the weather, the streams to be crossed, and the condition of the roads which were then hardly more than trails.

In order to save expense and time the people in a neighborhood would join together and select one of their number to make the trip and file on all of the lands selected. On his return he would execute the proper release or deed to the rightful owner who would pay to the government the appraised price of the land and perfect the title. The patent from the government would be issued to the party who did the filing and subsequently to the party who paid the money. The price paid for the land at the time of the first entries ranged from twenty-five cents to one dollar twenty-five cents an acre according to the location and worth, the appraisements being fixed by an officer appointed by the land department for that purpose.

#### GAME AND WILD ANIMALS

Up until the later 'fifties southwest Missouri was the hunters' paradise. There was an abundance of wild game such as deer, turkey and wild geese, and these furnished half the living for the first settlers. There also were many wild animals not so desirable and often the sturdy pioneers were obliged to leave their work to fight some wild beast which was terrifying the neighborhood. Wolves came in packs and killed the sheep and other small domestic animals. Wild cats and panthers came lurking around at night and so in every home the trusty rifle always



**THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

**To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:**

**Whereas** *Bennett Wellman, of Barry County, Missouri*  
has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at *Springfield*,  
it appears that full payment has been made by the said *Bennett Wellman* according  
to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," for the tract of *16.151*  
quarter of the South West quarter of Section ten, in Township twenty seven, of Range twenty seven,  
West, in the District of Lands subject to sale at *Springfield, Missouri*, containing forty acres

according to the official plat of the survey of the said Lands returned to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General, which said tract has been purchased by the said  
*Bennett Wellman*

NOW KNOW YE, That the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several acts of Congress, in such case made and  
provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT unto the said *Bennett Wellman*  
and to *his* heirs, the said tract above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances of whatsoever nature,  
thereunto belonging, unto the said *Bennett Wellman* and to *his* heirs and assigns forever.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, James H. Polk**

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these letters to be made PATENT, and the SEAL of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.  
GIVEN under my hand at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the *first* day of *June* in the year of our Lord one  
thousand eight hundred and *19* *th* year of the INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES the *Sixty Ninth*  
**By the President:** *James H. Polk*

*Wm. L. Lytle* By *James H. Polk* Sec'y  
RECORDED, RECORD OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

RECORDED, VOL. 11. - PAGE 190

LAND PATENT ISSUED TO BENNETT WELLMAN IN 1845



was loaded and ready for use. Everybody old enough to carry a musket was taught to shoot and learned to brave danger.

The following little story, told the writer by A. W. Onstott, illustrates the common cause which all the neighborhood made against these enemies of mankind which made life a burden to new comers.

One morning, during the early 'fifties, John Onstott saddled his horse intending to go to Carthage on some business and, taking his little son Abe up with him, started on his journey. After traveling a few miles he noticed his neighbor, John Dale, chasing a wolf across the prairie and, perceiving that his friend's horse was nearly winded from a long run, put spurs to his horse and took out after the animal. His steed was a most sensible one and after a few miles of racing with the wolf overtook it, and jumping on it with his fore feet, knocked it to the ground. Quickly dismounting Mr. Onstott unfastened the stirrup from the saddle—one of the old iron stirrups so much used in that day—and with one or two well directed blows killed the wolf.

Sometimes hunting parties would be formed to search for panthers or other carnivorous beasts which ventured too near to civilization. Nearly all of the wild animals were exterminated before the war.

Among the popular amusements for the pioneer hunter were the shooting matches, the prizes for which being usually either a steer, a good fat hog or a sheep. When the animal contended for was as small as a hog or sheep a number of matches were arranged. When the prize was a steer or a heifer the plan of the match was as follows: A number of the best shots would enter for the contest, each one paying so much, depending on the value of the game, for his right to enter. Usually each contestant had five shots in which to display his skill.

Every man brought with him to the shoot a board from which all marks were erased save the "bull's eye" or mark and these were placed at a certain distance, fifty, one hundred or two hundred yards away, according as the rules for the day were made, and served as targets. After the shots were fired the judges inspected the targets and decided which of the shooters had won the honors.

At a match for a steer there were five winners, the four best shots having the choice of one of the four quarters of the beast and the fifth man taking as his part the hide and tallow.

## CHAPTER II

### CIVIL AND POLITICAL

THE ORIGINAL JASPER COUNTY—FIRST TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONS—COMMISSION TO LOCATE COUNTY SEAT—COURT HOUSE BUILT—FIRST CARTHAGE HOUSES—EARLY PROVISION FOR GOOD ROADS—NO SNAP TO HOLD OFFICE—FIRST SESSION OF THE CIRCUIT COURT—CONSPIRACY OR RIOT CASE—A NEW COURT HOUSE BUILT—EARLY POLITICAL HISTORY—COUNTY OFFICERS, 1841-61.

The bill authorizing the organization of the county passed January 29, 1841, contained the following general provision: "All that territory included within the following described limits, to-wit: Beginning at the southwest corner of section one, in township twenty-seven, of range twenty-nine; thence running parallel with the line dividing townships twenty-seven and twenty-eight, westwardly to the western boundary of the state; thence north on the line of the state to the line dividing townships thirty-three and thirty-four; thence east on said line to the northwest corner of section one, in township thirty-three of range twenty-nine; thence south to the place of beginning, is hereby created a separate and distinct county, to be called and known by the name of Jasper county."

#### THE ORIGINAL JASPER COUNTY

It will be noted that the original limits of the county contained all the territory now in Barton county but did not extend as far south as the present southern limits, the base line dividing townships twenty-seven and twenty-eight being the southern limit.

The territory which includes the greater part of Joplin, Duenweg, Scotland and Sarcoxie was not in the original Jasper county.

In 1845 three miles was added to Jasper county on the south, and in 1855 Barton county was taken from its northern sections.

Pursuant to the provision of the above bill the Hon. S. M. Cooley, Jeremiah Cravens and Samuel B. Bright, who had been appointed members of the county court, and John P. Osborne, who had been appointed sheriff, met at the residence of George Hornback on Spring river, took the oath of office and entered upon their duties.

Elwood B. James was appointed county clerk and the bonds of the sheriff and clerk were approved. The court then adjourned to meet March 8, 1841.

At the meeting of the county court on March 8th, the following officers were appointed: Assessor, John Haskins; public administrator, Chas. Robinson; treasurer, George Hornback and county surveyor, John Chenault.

Justice Samuel M. Cooley was chosen as president of the court and by virtue of that office became the first probate judge.

#### FIRST TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

At the meeting of the county court on March 8th the county was divided into three townships: North Fork township, which included all of the territory north of the North and Dry forks of Spring river; Spring River township, the east half of the county south of the Dry fork and Center Creek township, which included the western half of the county south of the North fork. Officers for the townships were also appointed. On March 14th North Fork township was divided, the western half being designated as Newton township. On November 3rd of the same year Marion township was organized and included in its territory the east half of Center Creek township and the west half of Spring River. No further changes were made in the township limits until August, 1847, when a portion of the North Fork and Spring River townships was stricken off and Jasper township organized. Marion township was divided into a north and south township, the southern township being called Robinson. On March 29, 1848, the name of Robinson was changed to Jackson. In 1854 McDonald township was carved out of the northeast portion of Spring River township and the northern part of the county (now Barton county) was organized as Barton township. It remained thus until after the war, except that township (Barton county) was stricken off of the northern part of Jasper county.

#### COMMISSION TO LOCATE COUNTY SEAT

John Plummer, George Barker and Abel Landers, all of the county of Newton, were appointed commissioners to select the permanent seat of justice for the county. The bill provided that the said commissioners should make their location as near the center of the inhabitable part of the county as practicable, without a survey, due regard being had to the situation. Abel Landers and George Barker qualified as commissioners to select the permanent seat of justice and after making a most thorough canvass of the situation chose the site where now stands beautiful Carthage, for the future county seat. Mr. Landers was paid twenty dollars and Mr. Barker fifteen dollars for their services as commissioners.

At a meeting of the county court held March 28, 1842, the county seat was formally named Carthage.

James Nichols, the surveyor who made the first temporary plat of the county seat, was paid ten dollars for his work.

The land on which Carthage was built was at the time of its selec-

tion as the county seat a part of the public domain, being then unsurveyed by the government. In 1844 a survey was made by the government and the corners regularly located. The county court then appointed George Hornback as commissioner to enter and perfect title to the land for the county, and the section where the town was being built was bought from the United States for the county at the regular price, one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre, and thus the deeds which had already been made by the county to purchasers of lots were made good.

At a meeting of the county court April 10, 1842, Pelig Spencer was appointed commissioner of the seat of justice and superintendent of public buildings and as such was authorized to contract for the building of a suitable court house which was to be paid for as follows: One hundred dollars when the building was completed and the balance in bonds received in payment for the lots sold in the town of Carthage.

The commissioner was also authorized to employ a surveyor to lay off the new town. The plat of the future Athens of southwest Missouri was exhibited to the court May 15th and formally approved and ordered placed on record.

#### COURT HOUSE BUILT

The superintendent of buildings contracted with Levi H. Jenkins to build the court house, the contract price being three hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifty cents. It was a one-story, one-room building, on the north side of the public square. The door faced the south and at the north end of the room was a large old fashioned fireplace.

The first sale of the lots took place on the 13th day of June, 1842, and twenty-eight lots were disposed of, ranging in price from \$10.50 to \$44.00. The highest priced lot was No. 24, the corner where now stands the Harrington Hotel. The first man to pay for his lot was William Kerr who purchased lot 3 on the east side of the square, paying \$18.50 in the coin of the realm.

The court house was completed and formally turned over to the county, June 29, 1842, and the official records were ordered moved to the new county seat.

#### FIRST CARTHAGE HOUSES

The first house built within the present limits of Carthage was erected by Henry Pierce in 1833 near the Big spring by the old woolen mill, this was of course in the days of squatter sovereignty. The first house erected in Carthage after it became the county seat was by Dr. Gabe Johnson in 1842 on the lot just east of the Harrington Hotel. George Hornback built the next house, a two-story frame, situated on the north side of the square which served as a residence and store combined.



## EARLY PROVISION FOR GOOD ROADS

At the first session of the county court after the court house was completed that body transacted a large volume of business, one of the most important acts being the taking of steps toward establishing a system of roads.

A commissioner was appointed in each township to map and plat the county roads necessary for the public travel, and the court also took steps leading to the building of three great roads, one leading from Carthage to Springfield, another leading from Carthage to Greenfield, and the third from Carthage to Neosho.

This was a most important act and showed that the members of the first county court were far-seeing in their judgment for good roads, and convenient modes of transportation are as essential in the building of a state as a system of education.

## NO SNAP TO HOLD OFFICE

The reports of the several offices for 1842 show that it was no snap to hold a county office in that day—that is, as far as remuneration is concerned.

The total revenue collected from tax on property was \$437.47, for state and county purposes, of which sum the county received two-thirds or \$291.62. The amount received for merchants' licenses was \$20.00, thus bringing into the county treasury \$311.62.

The members of the county court received two dollars per day and drew from the treasury about twenty dollars during the year.

The treasurer was paid one and a half per cent of the funds passing through his hands and received for his year's pay \$4.81.

The treasurer gave bond in the sum of \$1,500.

The sheriff and county clerk fared a little better, however, as they were paid in fees, and the sheriff made about \$100 out of his office and the clerk about \$75.

## THE FIRST SESSION OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

The bill providing for the organization of Jasper county also made provision for the organization of a number of other counties, and another bill passed at the same time to redistrict the state into judicial circuits, Jasper and other southwest Missouri counties being in the Thirteenth judicial circuit. On February 8, 1841, the governor appointed Hon. Charles S. Yancey as the judge thereof.

The first session of the Jasper county circuit court was held February 25th at the residence of George Hornback.

The opening of the court was both unusual and romantic and shows how easily the pioneer overcomes what at first seems to be an insurmountable difficulty.

The residence of George Hornback was one of the pioneer log houses, twelve by sixteen, and besides a table contained half a dozen



split-bottom chairs; also was furnished with a couple of old fashioned beds.

It will be readily seen that the one room was somewhat crowded with the family, but this was nothing to the pioneer; and so when the morning of the 25th of February (the day set for the opening of the court) dawned clear and bright it found some twenty-odd men at this hostelry to participate in the opening. At the hour set for the opening of the court, His Honor, Judge Yancey, ordered the sheriff, J. P. Osborne, to formally open the court, and that officer stepping to the door of the house, after taking a large quid of tobacco from his mouth, said, "Oh yes, Oh yes, the Honorable Circuit Court of Jasper County is now in session."

Robert W. Crawford was appointed circuit attorney pro tem. and the court was opened for business.

The following gentlemen were empaneled as the grand jury: George Hornback, foreman; Henry H. Zackery, David Hawkins, Daniel Smith, James Hornback, John Oxford, David Brochus, Thackery Vivion, Thomas J. Mills, Daniel M. Hopkins, Samuel Teas, John F. Mills, Dubart Murphy, Levi Dickerson, Leander Messit, William Laxon and Robert Neal.

After the jury was charged, for the want of a jury room retired to a large log in the yard and there entered upon their deliberations, after listening to the testimony returning a true bill against David Lamaster for forgery. At the trial the case was nolle for some irregularity in the drawing of the indictment.

At this session of the court John C. Price, afterward a distinguished lawyer and later circuit judge, was admitted to the bar. Court was held at this place until June, 1842, when the new court house at Carthage was ready for occupancy.

At the October term of the court Robert W. Crawford, the acting prosecuting attorney, and John R. Chenault, afterward judge of the circuit court, engaged in a heated war of words over some matter that came up during a trial and concluded the argument with a rough-and-tumble fight, which was with great difficulty ended by the sheriff.

Judge Yancey promptly fined the belligerents ten dollars for contempt of court. Mr. Crawford paid his fine, but Mr. Chenault made a motion that the fine be set aside on the ground of self-defense, but Judge Yancey overruled the motion. Mr. Chenault appealed the case to the supreme court, but for some reason it was never reached and the case was finally dropped.

#### CONSPIRACY OR RIOT CASE

The most important case tried while the sessions of the court were held at the Hornback residence was the famous Conspiracy or Riot case, as it was called. A man by the name of Skidmore had incurred the displeasure of the community on account of gambling, horse-racing

and other irregularities, and one night some eleven men constituted themselves a committee to wait on him and inform him that he was not wanted in the county. Mr. Skidmore concluded to stand his ground and the committee returned and gave him a severe horse-whipping and again ordered him to leave. Skidmore stood his ground and defied the committee. A few nights later they returned and Skidmore opened fire, killing one of the besieging party; after which they retired leaving him in full possession of the fort.

Skidmore then had the entire party arrested, but for various reasons, inability to secure an impartial jury, absence of witness, etc., etc., the case dragged along for several terms and was then dismissed.

#### A NEW COURT HOUSE BUILT

By the close of the 'forties the business transacted by the county had grown to such proportions that the one-room court house at Carthage would not accommodate the county officers and on July 29, 1849, an architect was employed to draw plans for a court house which was built in 1851.

The new structure was a two-story brick building, the lower part being used for the circuit court and other offices and the upstairs being set apart for county and jail purposes. This building served as a hospital for the wounded soldiers of both the Union and Confederate armies after the battle of Carthage, and in 1863 was burned during one of the frequent raids that took place in the county.

#### EARLY POLITICAL HISTORY

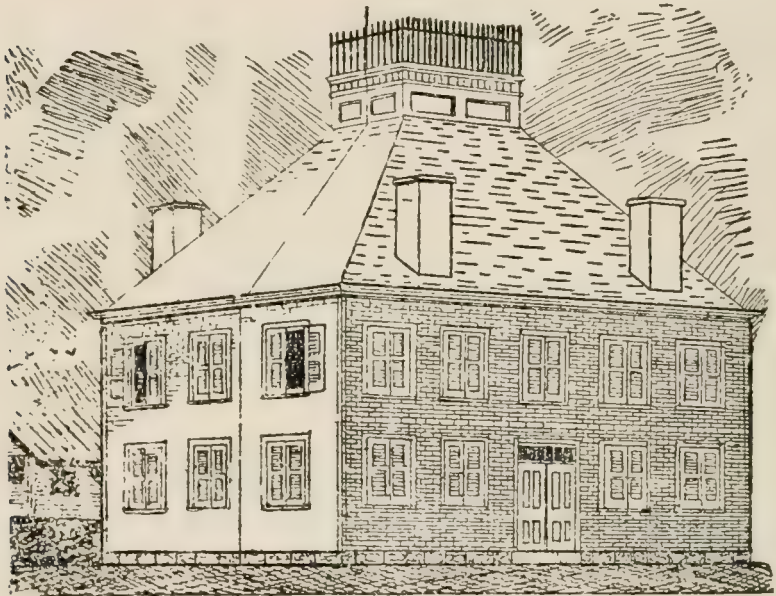
When Jasper county was organized in 1841 the first officers were appointed by the governor and at the first election in 1842 political lines were not closely drawn, the voters usually voting for the friend or neighbor they most liked, but at the election of 1844 the people began to divide into the two great parties of that day, the Democratic and Whig. The Democratic party was that which advocated the doctrines of Jefferson and Jackson; the Whig, the Hamiltonian theory of government. Both parties were well organized in 1844 and made a hard fight for victory, but the Democrats were mostly successful.

In the campaign of 1852 the American, or Know Nothing party, made a vigorous campaign and elected a few of its candidates. The American party was so called because it opposed the holding of office by foreign-born citizens. This party spread its doctrines largely by means of lodges which were organized in nearly every community. It unsettled both of the old parties, but drew most of its strength from the Whigs.

The anti-slavery agitation, which began with the organization of the Republican party, made a new political alignment in the county and at the election of 1856 found three contestants—the Democrats, the Benton Democrats and the Know Nothings.

The Republican party made no showing in Jasper county at this time, but the men opposed to slavery supported Thomas H. Benton for governor. The greatest political gathering of this campaign was at Sarcouxie, then the leading town of the county, where the distinguished ex-senator and silver-tongued orator spoke on the issues of the day. The occasion was a great event in the county and brought to the place people for miles around, and it is told by the old settlers who attended the meeting that it was the largest assemblage up to that time that had ever gathered in southwest Missouri.

Although Benton was regarded as an able man, he had lost his political prestige and made but a feeble race for governor as an independ-



OLD JASPER COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Used as a hospital following the battle of Carthage. Built in 1849 of brick and stone. Destroyed by fire in October, 1863.

ent candidate. The vote in the state was: Polk, regular Democrat, 47,000; Ewing, American, 40,500; Benton, independent, 27,600.

At the election of 1860 party lines almost completely went to pieces, and the voters again lined up at the battle of the ballots as Breckenridge Democrats or those whose sympathies were with the slave-holding interests; Douglas Democrats, or those who opposed the further extension of slavery; the remnant of the Whig and American parties, who called themselves Constitutional Union men, and the Lincoln Republicans. Lincoln received seventeen votes in Jasper county.

This was a bitter campaign and arrayed in many instances brother against brother. Old friendships were severed and a bitterness was engendered which was not healed over until years after the white

winged dove of peace had proclaimed the War of the States at an end and the America of our forefathers was a reunited country.

#### COUNTY OFFICERS 1841-61

We append herewith a list of the county officers from the organization of the county to the breaking out of the Civil war, when the county was for a time in a chaotic condition and without local government.

**Sheriffs:**—John P. Osborn, 1841-6; Samuel B. La Force, 1846-50; John Patts, 1850-52; T. F. Thompson, 1852-6; N. C. Hood, 1856-60; Thomas J. Haskell, 1861.

**County Court:**—Jeremiah Cravens, 1841-2, 1846-9; Samuel M. Cooley, 1841-6; Samuel B. Bughr, 1841-2; Henry M. Zackery (to fill vacancy), 1841-2; Moses Anglin, 1842-5; Wm. S. McGinnis, 1842-6; Jebson M. Keith, 1842-6; Andrew M. McKee, 1846-50; J. H. McPartridge, 1846-9; A. M. Dawson, 1849-50; Joseph Daugherty, 1849-50; Thomas G. Walton, 1850-8; John M. Fullerton, 1850-5; Milton Stephenson, 1850-5; George E. Ward, 1855-6; Rice Challis, 1855-8; John Onstott, 1856-8; Josiah Boyd, 1858-61; John B. Higdon, 1858-61; Daniel Hunn, 1858-60; John B. Martin, 1860-1.

**County Clerks:**—Elwood B. James, 1841; A. Ferris, 1841 (died after serving one month); Elwood B. James, 1841-59; Stanfield Ross, 1859-61. The county clerk was ex officio recorder and circuit clerk prior to the war.

**Treasurers:**—G. E. Hornback, 1841 (resigned); John Scott, 1841-3; Henry H. Zackery, 1843-6; Lewis H. Scruggs, 1846-52; Wm. Chenault, 1852-60; Archibald McCoy, 1860-1.

**Prosecuting Attorneys:**—Robert M. Crawford (acting first term of court); James McBride, 1841-4; Wm. C. Jones, 1844-5; John T. Coffee, 1845-54; E. B. Borne, 1854-7; Andrew T. Hann, 1857-60; Joseph Cravens, 1860-1; William M. Cravens, 1861

**Circuit Court Judges:**—Chas. S. Yancy, 1841-56; Wm. C. Price, 1856-7; John R. Chenault, 1857-61.

**Representatives:**—Samuel Melugin, 1842-4, 1848-50; J. M. Richardson, 1844-6; Thos. Mansfield, 1846-8; Samuel B. La Forse, 1850-2; Archibald McCoy, 1852-4; David Norris, 1854-6; James Cravens, 1856-8; Wm. N. Warren, 1858-60; John B. Dale, 1860-1.



## CHAPTER III

### PIONEER SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES

FIRST SCHOOL SECTION SOLD—PIONEER SCHOOL DISTRICTS—FIRST SCHOOL DESCRIBED—FIRST COUNTY SCHOOL COMMISSIONER—SCHOOL FUND GREATLY AUGMENTED—THE CARTHAGE FEMALE ACADEMY—ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRST CHURCH—BUILDING OF THE FIRST CHURCH—FIRST CHURCH AND REV. GREENVILLE SPENCER—OLD-FASHIONED CAMP-MEETINGS—REV. HARRIS JOPLIN AND REV. ANTHONY BEWLER—PEACE CHURCH OF GALENA TOWNSHIP.

The act of congress receiving Missouri into the Union provided among other things that for the purpose of creating a school fund in each county of the state, to be used exclusively for the payment of teachers in the public schools, the sixteenth section of land in each congressional township should be donated to the state, and all moneys received from the sale of such land were to be placed in the school fund of the several counties when organized and the same loaned out at interest which was to be annually apportioned to the districts according to their school population.

#### FIRST SCHOOL SECTION SOLD

The first sixteenth section of school lands sold in Jasper county was paid for in May, 1842. The land sold for \$1.25 an acre and netted the county school fund \$800. During 1842 the school fund was swelled to \$870.48 by the payment of fines, donations and interest on the \$800, which was at once loaned out. The interest collected for the year 1842 was \$38.

#### PIONEER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The first school district to be organized was in congressional township 28 and range 29, in the east-central part of the county. The formal organization occurred in November, 1844, when the county court appointed William Maxwell school commissioner for the township and ordered that the same be divided into three school districts. District No. 1 embraced all of the territory north of Spring river; No. 2 the west half of the territory south of Spring river and No. 3 the east half.

School District No. 2 was the first to build a schoolhouse and hence has the honor of being the oldest school district in the county.



## FIRST SCHOOL DESCRIBED

Judge Jeremiah Cravens was one of the first school directors for this district and Samuel Teas was the first teacher. We give herewith a description of this first school written by H. M. Boyd, formerly of Sarcouxie and a pupil in the school back in the 'forties: "Samuel Teas taught the first school in the county. The house was built of rough logs unhewn and was covered with clapboards held down on the roof with poles, as nails could not be obtained at this early day. The house had but one door; this was in the south side. In the west end one log was cut out the full length of the room for a window and this was left open summer and winter. Under this window there was a plank running the full length nailed to pins driven into the wall. This served as a writing desk. The fireplace was in the east end of the house and was wide enough to take a log a foot and a half thick and eight feet long.

"The jams on each side and the back were made of rough rock and the balance of the chimney was made of sticks daubed with red clay. The house was seated with split logs, the flat side up and the ends resting on chunks.

"In the side of the door a nail was driven into the wall and on this was suspended a little forked stick about six inches long, which every scholar took with him when he went out during the hours of study. No scholar was allowed to go out till this little fork was returned. This house stood on the east side of the road that ran from the Haskins house to the old ford on Center creek, known as the Boyd ford, and was about midway between the two. I attended this school and here I learned my A B C and received here my first flogging. The school was patronized by the Cravens, the Mills, the Brittons, the Boyds, the Haskins, Beasley and Prigmons.

"Mr. Teas was regarded as a successful teacher in that day and a fine scholar. He wrote a good hand and could cipher as far as the rule of three. The school was what might be called an old fashioned school; that is, all the students used the old blue back spelling book and studied it aloud.

"The school on each evening closed by the students standing in a line and spelling the words as they were given out by the teacher. Ten minutes were given to get the spelling lesson and as the announcement was made every boy and girl got his blue-back book and spelled aloud with all his might and they could easily be heard a quarter of a mile away."

The second township to be organized was township 29, range 33, in the west-central part of the county.

The order creating this district was made at the May term of the county court in 1845. Benjamin Turner was appointed the commissioner for the township and Samuel Bright and John R. Chenault, inspectors.

Samuel B. Cooley was the first teacher. It will be noted that all

three members of the first county court participated in the organization of the school system, Judge Samuel B. Cooley, the first presiding judge, being a teacher, and Judges Bright and Cravens, members of the first school board in their respective districts.

This district was fortunate in having for its first teacher and leading spirit, Judge Cooley, for he was a man of great integrity and his influence on the rising generation was felt long after he had passed away.

The school was one of the pioneer log houses and at first, for the want of lumber, had no floor, the door and two openings for windows letting in the light. We are told by one of the old settlers that in winter time these windows were covered with gunny sacks, glass being a luxury known only to the most prosperous of the farmers and merchants.

The fireplace was an immense affair, where great logs five or six feet long were thrown in, and here the fire sparkled and roared throughout the cold winter day. The furniture was all home-made and scant at that; the seats, like those at the Teas school, were made by cutting a large log in two and driving pegs in the rounded parts.

Other districts soon were organized and when the war came on twenty-three school houses had been built. Among the districts organized in the 'forties were the Franklin school, near Castle Rock on Turkey creek, with Charles Harris as its teacher; Peace Church school, later called Enterprise; Spring River school, Carthage; the Black Jack in McDonald township; the Duval in the northwestern part of county and White Oak school, near Avilla.

The course of study was confined principally to the three R's, but as the county grew in population, wealth and importance, new branches were added and during the later 'fifties several of the schools included in their curriculum history, civil government, algebra and like studies.

In those days the rod was freely used and teachers were usually men, the school authorities holding to the old-fashioned theory of "no licking, no learning;" and muscle was as much needed by the teacher as a good certificate, in securing employment.

The *modus operandi* of conducting the school was quite different from the law and usage of today. In each township there was appointed a commissioner who exercised a supervision over the school. He employed the teacher, mapped out the course of study, made the rules and regulations and, in short, performed the duties now exercised by the school board.

There were also appointed two inspectors whose duty it was to visit the schools (at least once during the term) and report on the proficiency of the teacher and the progress made by the pupils.

#### THE FIRST COUNTY SCHOOL COMMISSIONER

On December 3, 1853, the county court appointed John R. Chenault county school commissioner and asked him to prescribe a suggested uni-

form course of study for the county schools. Judge Chenault accepted the position but did not hold it long for two reasons—first, it interfered with his law practice, and secondly and principally, because its compensation was not enough.

#### SCHOOL FUND GREATLY AUGMENTED

On September 28, 1850, congress passed a law in the interest of popular education providing that where there were swamp or overflowed lands in a county, the same were to be condemned and sold for the benefit of the school fund. At the next session of the Missouri legislature laws were passed providing the manner that such lands in Missouri should be disposed of.

A bright idea now came to one of the members of the county court. During the spring rains Spring river and Center creek sometimes overflowed and left their banks. Why not call the lands adjacent to these two streams "swamp or overflowed lands," and have them sold for the benefit of the school fund? The scheme savored a little of trickery, but the county officials figured that by doing so they would serve the future generations and accordingly on the third day of December, 1853, they entered into a contract with J. M. Richardson, ex-secretary of state, to act as agent for the county in taking the necessary steps to have the lands adjacent to these streams condemned. Mr. Richardson was to receive for his services as attorney one-fourth of the amount obtained from the sale of the lands less the expenses incurred; in other words the County School fund would get three-fourths net and he the balance after the expenses had been paid.

Mr. Richardson secured the appointment of a commissioner to view and condemn the swamp and overflowed lands and agreed to give them twelve and a half cents for each acre condemned.

The commission condemned practically all of the government domain that was left unsold and the county came into possession of more than 300,000 acres of land, which was placed on the market the latter part of 1854 and sold at ninety cents an acre.

The land was at first offered on the following terms:—One seventh down and time on the balance. The interest however was paid annually. In 1856 the court ordered a payment of one-third of the purchase price.

About one-half of this land was disposed of during the 'fifties. To give an idea of the bigness of this coup d'état we present the following figures. In 1854, the year the lands were placed on the market, the school apportionment was seven cents per child, but in 1856 the interest paid in on the sales that had been made the first year ran the school apportionment up to twenty-five cents per child. Jasper county people often refer with pride to our magnificent County School fund, but there are but few who know the inside history of how it was acquired.

The amount of money secured from the sale of the swamp lands was in round numbers \$200,000. The school fund has grown until today

it is \$235,000 and the annual interest gives to the several school districts sixty-four cents per child of school age, in addition to the amount received from the state apportionment.

The coming on of the Civil war soon after the swamp lands were placed on the market stopped for a time the sale, but after the reorganization of the county the lands were again put on the market and rapidly sold.

As the county was completely disorganized during the war the schools were closed, and after the war new laws were passed governing the several school districts, so that with the coming of peace a new regime in school matters came on; and we will therefore take up the subject later and treat it under the head of the "Reorganized School System."

#### THE CARTHAGE FEMALE ACADEMY

In 1855 the citizens of the county began to plan for larger things in an educational way and the Carthage Female Academy was organized and chartered by the state. The following gentlemen constituted the first board of trustees: John R. Chenault, David Guthrie, A. M. Dawson, Archibald McCoy, Elwood B. James and William Chenault.

The county court sold to the seminary a building site for the consideration of one dollar and also donated to the trustees a forty-acre tract of land from the "school lands." This tract of land was sold and the proceeds added to a \$1,000 loan which was obtained from the county out of the school fund and was used for the construction of the building.

The academy was patronized by the best families of the county and a good course of study was mapped out, and had the war not come just then as the school began to flourish it no doubt would have been a power in an educational way. The war brought the career of the institution to an end, and after the public schools were reorganized the building and site were sold to the school district of Carthage for one dollar.

On the site now stands the pride of Carthage, the \$200,000 High School.

The teachers in the academy were Samuel M. Knealand, principal, assisted by Mr. Hurley and Miss Alice Walker

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRST CHURCH

The first organized religious work done in this county was by the Cumberland Presbyterians in 1834, when the Center Creek Presbyterian church was organized at the Sarcxie Springs by the Rev. Andrew Buchanan. Among those who assisted in its organization were B. L. Pearson, J. Blair and A. A. Young.

Mr. Young, who was at this time a licentiate afterward became a minister of the gospel, and not only labored hard for the evangelization of the Sarcxie neighborhood but assisted in the organization of the work in southwest Missouri.



The organization, during the pioneer period, had no church home, but worshipped at the homes of its members and annually conducted a camp-meeting where most of its effective work was done.

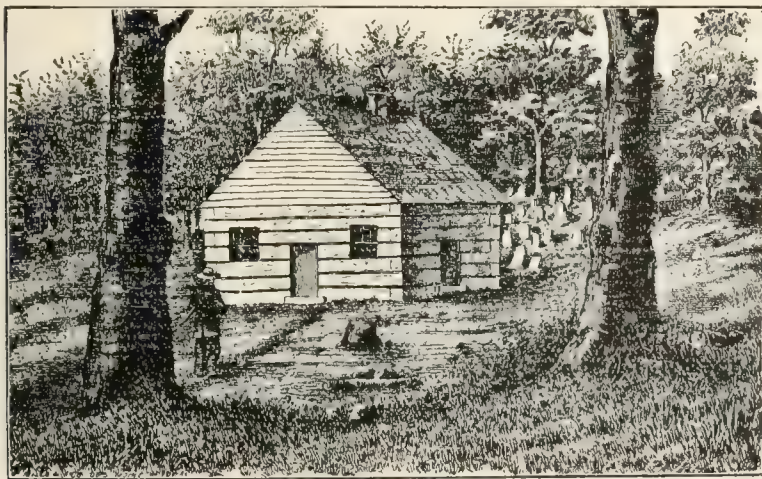
At the time of its organization the nearest church to Sarcxie was at Mt. Pleasant, eighteen miles away, and the Center Creek church included on its roll members for ten miles around, being the pioneer Presbyterian church in southwest Missouri.

Out of the Center Creek congregation grew the following Presbyterian churches: Clear Creek, Pierce City, Richey, Mt. Comfort, Newtonia, Bethel, Spring River, New Salem (now Neosho), and the reorganized Sarcxie church (after the war).

For many years the Rev. Young conducted the camp-meetings of the Center Creek church and is said to have converted hundreds of the pioneers. During the war, in the fall of 1864, Mr. Young conducted a camp-meeting at Sarcxie which was attended by the Union soldiers then encamped at that point, and during his two weeks' meeting—which, by the way, was one of his most successful—some sixty of the soldiers professed Christ and during their temporary sojourn were members of the Center Creek congregation.

#### BUILDING OF THE FIRST CHURCH

As mentioned in the preceding article, the first church organized in Jasper county was the Centerville Presbyterian church, which carried on its work at the home of some good brother or at its annual camp-



OLD FREEDOM BAPTIST CHURCH ON JONES CREEK, UNION TOWNSHIP

meeting held at the old Sarcxie Spring. Thus the work of the Master went on until 1841 when the Rev. Greenville Spencer, a Baptist minister, came to the community and commenced labor in the southeastern part of the county, then the most thickly settled and most important

part of the new settlement. He was a man of action and an indefatigable worker and at once set about to organize a church and build a house of worship.

The church was called the Freedom Baptist and was built on Jones creek in what is now Union township. As will be seen from the picture of the old church which we here present, this first house of worship was built of logs and furnished with the home-made furniture then in use by the pioneers.

The building of the church was a great event in the early history of the county and was the occasion of one of the old-fashioned log raisings so popular in those days. The logs were cut and hewed on the farms of the members and hauled to the spot chosen for the church home, and on the day appointed put in form by the pastor and his followers. The church was thirty-four by twenty-four feet and the height to the top of the roof twenty feet. The ceiling was eight feet high; the floor was made of oak and ash planks and the door, which swung on the old strap hinges was fastened with wooden buttons.

When the church was first built it was among the giant forest trees so plentiful in those days, but now, with the thousands of feet used for mining timbers, railroad ties, etc., they have almost disappeared.

Back of the church is an old cemetery and the stones, now crumbling with age, tell the story of a pioneer people who came and blazed the way for a splendid civilization which their children and their posterity should enjoy.

The following are the names of some of the men who helped to build this church and thus erected the first temple of worship in the third county of the state: The pastor, Rev. Greenville Spencer, Samuel Spence, Daniel Spence, Jerry Gillstrap, Ephraim Jenkins, Jacob Hammer, Lewis Jones, John Jones, James Jones, William Cloud and Woodson Angel.

For more than forty years services were held in this old log church and many a man and woman, like John Bunyan, first saw the new light there and felt the burden of their sins fall away to trouble them no more. The church has not been used since the early 'eighties and is now almost a ruin, the roof having fallen in and nothing being left to tell the story of the early religious activities in the county except the four walls which have been left as a sacred relic to mark the spot where the white banner of the Prince of Peace was first planted.

Here, too, under the protecting branches of the monster forest trees near the church, were held some of the greatest camp-meetings and the people for miles around came to these gatherings.

It might not be out of place here to give for the younger generation, not acquainted with those wonderful gatherings, a description of the old fashioned camp-meetings which were held not only here, but all over the county, in the pioneer period. The last one of the great camp-meetings having a county-wide influence was held in 1883 on the site of beautiful Lakeside Park.

## OLD-FASHIONED CAMP-MEETINGS

The old camp-meeting was an out-of-door revival where the people gathered to stay for several days and camped out while attending the meetings, which were sometimes continued for several weeks. The pulpit or preacher's stand was built under some monster tree whose wide-spreading branches made a canopy for the shelter of the speaker and those who came to the mourner's bench.

Each family usually brought several chairs which were carried back and forth from the meeting to the camping place, and sometimes improvised benches were made by cutting down a few trees and using the logs for seats.

The campers' wagons were scattered around in all directions from the meeting place and at night served as a shelter. In summer-time beds were made up under the wagons and trees and if, perchance, the meeting was held in the fall, around the camp fires which were kept burning through the night.

At meal time and between services the children frolicked and the people made new acquaintances and renewed old friendships. The good house-wife, before coming to this meeting, cooked a great quantity of food and brought it along, together with a few cooking utensils which would be needed for quick service on the ground.

There were usually three services during the day, morning, afternoon and twilight. Darkness put an end to the services, because in those days only candles were used and these, of course, would not go far in lighting up a quarter of a mile of forest.

These meetings were of great importance in the early day—first, because the Gospel was preached; secondly, because they had a tendency to better the morals of the community, and, thirdly, because they served as a means of bringing the people together and thus making them better acquainted; and as friendships were made and the bonds of sympathy became greater, the people became interested in each other's welfare and were neighbors in every sense of the word.

## REV. HARRIS JOPLIN AND REV. ANTHONY BEWLER

Contemporaneous with the Rev. Spencer was the Rev. Harris Joplin, who located in the western part of the county on the banks of the creek which was named for him and where afterwards was commenced the mining activities of the future metropolis of southwest Missouri.

Mr. Joplin was the pioneer Methodist and labored among the people of West Jasper from 1840 until about 1845, when he moved to Greene county where he died in 1847. During his sojourn here he organized a Methodist church which worshiped at his cabin, but after his departure meetings were discontinued and the church rolls and other evidence of its existence was lost.

The Methodist church was permanently planted in the county in 1844 when the Sarcoux circuit was created and the Rev. Anthony Bew-



ler assigned to the charge. At that time there was no church building save the Freedom Baptist and Mr. Bewler was commissioned as a traveling minister to preach the Gospel, organize churches and urge them to build a church home.

The first church organized by the Rev. Bewler was at Cave Springs, in the extreme eastern part of the county. He was what was known in the early days of Methodism as a circuit rider. He rose to the high position of presiding elder of the Springfield district in 1850 and completed his ministerial labors in Texas in 1860. He met with an untimely death while on the way home to join his family in Missouri.

The Methodist church, as is well known, divided on the slavery question, and the Rev. Bewler cast his lot with the Anti-slavery party and boldly expressed his views here and in Texas on the great question which a few months later brought on the War between the States. His Texas congregation became enraged at his speech and an anonymous letter was sent to him giving him a certain number of hours in which to leave the state. Feeling was so high, however, that he was siezed while returning home and hanged at Fort Worth, on September 6, 1860.

The following are the Methodist ministers who labored in Jasper county before the war: Rev. Mark Robinson, Rev. W. J. Markham, Rev. J. K. Alderman; Rev. S. H. Carlisle, who organized the work in Carthage; Rev. J. M. Pape, Rev. D. W. Wise, Rev. J. Doughty, Rev. C. C. Arrington, Rev. James Hahan, Rev. Bery Hall and the Rev. Henry Hubbard.

#### PEACE CHURCH OF GALENA TOWNSHIP

Among the historic old churches of Jasper county was the Peace church in Galena township southwest of the Snapp farm. It was organized by the Rev. Greenville Spencer, the same minister who founded the Freedom church and like it, was built by the congregation, each man furnishing a certain number of logs. The church building served for a time also as a schoolhouse, when the old Enterprise school district was organized. The old church was torn down in 1909 and all that now remains of that once famous church is the old cemetery and the memory of the good that it has done.



## CHAPTER IV

### VARIOUS PIONEER EVENTS

MINING COMMENCED AT LEADVILLE HOLLOW—FIRST LEAD FOUND IN JOP-LIN CREEK VALLEY—DISCOVERY OF LEAD NEAR ORONOGO—THE FREEZE OF 1848—THE DRAGON FLY PEST—BURNING OF TWO NEGROES—GO-ING TO MILL—SOCIAL AMUSEMENTS—A SCHOOL TEACHER TARRED AND FEATHERED—FIRST NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTY—OLD SHERWOOD—TOWNS IN JASPER COUNTY BEFORE THE WAR—FIRST CENSUS OF THE COUNTY.

In the spring of 1849 David Campbell of Neosho, who was an experienced miner, was visiting William Tingle at his Turkey Creek farm and while walking about with his friend noticed a number of shallow depressions on the south side of the creek which to the casual observer had no special significance. They had the same appearance as the rest of the surface covered with a thick growth of underbrush and trees, but they excited the curiosity of Mr. Campbell and, on a close examination, appeared to be excavations of some sort which had been abandoned many years before. It occurred to him that these depressions might have been the mines which had been worked by the Spaniards or the Indians, and he concluded to look more closely for indications of mineral. He proceeded up the picturesque little valley now known as Leadville Hol-low, popularly known in those days as "Shakerag," and while walking along the banks of what was then a silvery stream (but now filled with sediment and refuse from the many mining plants along the banks of the little brook) he discovered half a dozen little chunks of lead on the banks of the ravine. Working loose one of the chunks he carried it to Mr. Tingle who at once went to his home and, procuring a spade, re-turned with Mr. Campbell to the spot; and in half an hour they threw out more than a hundred pounds of pure galena, all within a foot or two from the surface and free from rock or other foreign substance.

#### MINING COMMENCED AT LEADVILLE HOLLOW

Mr. Campbell and Mr. Tingle, who were related, immediately con-cluded to mine the tract, and Mr. Tingle at once set out for Springfield to enter the land where the mineral was found. Mr. Tingle was a shrewd business man and realizing the value of the discovery entered the entire section, and on his return commenced mining in real earnest with Mr. Campbell who had discovered the treasure.

Mr. Tingle also interested in the enterprise John Fitzgerald, of Carthage, who with him erected a small furnace at the mouth of the hollow and here the lead was smelted and made ready for the market. This smelter, compared with the mammoth lead factory of the Picher Lead Company where daily is smelted many tons of lead, was a quaint and primitive piece of mechanism.

The power for the blast was furnished by two monster bellows, each about twice the size of those seen in the ordinary blacksmith shop. Between the two bellows was erected a shaft from which was suspended a pump beam fastened to the bellows sweep. The pump beam was kept in motion by a horse power whim and as one bellows was filled the other



LEADVILLE HOLLOW—WHERE FIRST LEAD WAS DISCOVERED

was emptied; thus a constant blast of air was kept blowing on the fire. The fire was made of wood charcoal burned near the furnace and the lime used in the smelting was also burned at a kiln alongside of the creek and built for that purpose.

The pig lead made at this furnace was freighted overland to Boonville where it was placed on the market. An interesting story is told of taking the lead to Boonville. Mr. Tingle had a trusty slave Pete (who, by the way, had been given him by his father when he left Maryland for the west and whom his father had raised from a boy). Pete was an exceptionally bright colored man and a shrewd trader and Mr. Tingle frequently entrusted him with important business transactions, often sending him alone to Boonville with a four-horse wagon load of freight. Pete always sold his goods to advantage and upon his return accounted to his master for every penny.

The little camp which sprang up in this valley was called Leadville and at one time before the war numbered a hundred miners. The lead

in those days had a standing value of ten dollars per thousand delivered at the furnace.

It is interesting, too, to contrast the manner of cleaning the lead then and now. The mineral was cleaned with a tool which the miners called a pickawee, a small hand pick about the size of an ordinary hammer. Wash places were then unknown. All small particles of mineral which could not be separated with the pickawee were thrown out on the dump pile and left until the more recent days, where the great mills at an up-to-date mine save almost one hundred per cent of the mineral which comes from the ground.

#### FIRST LEAD FOUND IN JOPLIN CREEK VALLEY

The same year in which lead was discovered in Leadville Hollow mineral was also discovered in the Joplin Creek valley, and in a manner even more romantic than the discovery at Leadville, for it was purely accidental.

The following story was told the writer by Henry Blackwell, the man who built the first house in East Joplin and who assisted Judge Cox in surveying the original town.

Judge Cox owned a little negro boy, Pete, who was very fond of fishing and loved this sport even more than hunting the opossum, or eating the luscious red water-melon. On every occasion when opportunity presented he would hike to Turkey creek or the Joplin Creek branch, which was much nearer the judge's home, and there fish, generally with good success.

On one occasion he went to Joplin creek in what is now called Kansas City bottom and began digging for fish bait. While thus engaged he turned up a good size chunk of lead and, being curious to know what such a heavy thing was, he carried it to Judge Cox who at once recognized its value. After digging around some at the spot where the little negro turned up the chunk and finding large deposits of mineral he at once went to Springfield and entered the entire section.

Little mining was done on this tract until after the war, when Moffett and Sergeant came from Oronogo, took a lease on the tract and commenced to mine. The opening of the mines by Moffet and Sergeant was the commencement of Joplin.

#### DISCOVERY OF LEAD NEAR ORONOGO

Almost simultaneously with the discovery of lead in Leadville Hollow, good pay dirt was also found near the present site of Oronogo; mines were opened up by Judge Andrew McKee, Thomas Livingston, Messrs. French, Ringnold and others, and a thriving camp was soon in full blast.

The new town was called Minersville. Thomas Livingston was the leading spirit in the new camp and, being a man of great energy, erected a smelter quite similar to the Tingle Furnace and also conducted a gen-

eral store. Mr. Livingston had been raised in the west and his schooling had been neglected, but he was a shrewd business man and amassed what in those days was called a considerable fortune. Many fabulous stories are told of him and the gold he buried before going to the war.

Mr. Livingston was a man of great bravery, impetuous to a high degree, and knew not the meaning of the word fear. Yet with this fiery nature he had a tender side to his make-up, and was as chivalrous as he was brave. He was a most devoted father to his two children, who had been bereaved of their mother during their tender childhood days.

A considerable quantity of lead was mined both at Minersville and Leadville until the breaking out of the war, when all commerce came to an end. There is a tradition that at the approach of the Federal troops a large quantity of lead at the Livingston Smelter was thrown into Center creek to prevent its use by the Union soldiers.

There is an old story handed down by the pioneers that the lead in these parts was known by the Indians long before the discoveries above mentioned, and that they would dig out a small quantity for hunting purposes and then carefully conceal the mine to prevent discovery. The lead taken by them was smelted in crude chip fires, made hot enough to melt the metal. The melted lead would be allowed to trickle down to a small clay pot and there be taken up and cast into molds for bullets. We do not vouch for the truthfulness of this story, but give it for what it is worth.

Minersville at the breaking out of the Civil war contained about twenty-five houses and was quite a thriving camp. The history of Minersville, now Oronogo, will be taken up later and the development of this important mining district brought down to date.

#### THE FREEZE OF 1848

Jasper county, as a rule, has a most delightful climate, and her winters are usually open. It is seldom that the thermometer gets very far below zero and a severe cold spell hardly ever lasts longer than a week, but the winter and spring of 1848 was an exception. In January of that year there came a drizzling rain which afterward turned to sleet and snow, which froze as it fell. This continued for a full week and when the storm was over the entire earth's surface was a great skating pond, and the trees, underbrush and dried prairie grass were also coated with ice.

It did not thaw until the latter part of March and during all this time the trees and shrubs sparkled and glistened all through the day and by moonlight, making a scene like a fairy garden. The grass stood up like miniature palisades and was with its icy coat swelled to an inch thickness.

The sumach bushes resembled crystal pendants and the monarch oaks and stately sycamores were one solid mass of ice and made a fitting retreat for the Storm King.



## THE DRAGON FLY PEST

During the early 'fifties the county was visited by a plague in the shape of large swarms of dragon flies, described by old settlers as being as large as ordinary bees and as their size corresponded to the ordinary fly just that much more annoying. These flies became so annoying to the settlers that it was necessary to plough at night and leave the horses and oxen blanketed in the barn during the day time.

One can imagine the inconvenience of trying to tend a crop when the greater part of the work had to be done during the moonlight season, and rainy weather at times interfering with this kindly light that was the farmers only hope.

## BURNING OF TWO NEGROES

In August, 1854, there occurred in this county one of the greatest tragedies of the pioneer period, the burning at the stake of two colored men for the double crime of rape and arson.

Dr. Fisk who lived on a farm near Carthage had some business dealings with John B. Dale and had received a considerable sum of money.

A negro named Colley belonging to Mr. Dale knew of the transaction and conceived the idea of enticing the Doctor from his home that night and robbing him of the money, thinking that he would carry it on his person. He took into his confidence another negro named Bart who belonged to John Scott and the two men set about to carry out this design.

That evening about dusk Colley came to Dr. Fisk's house and told him that Mr. Dale's child was very sick and that the family wanted him to come at once to the bedside. Dr. Fisk at once saddled his horse and taking his medicine case set out for Mr. Dale's house.

After the Doctor had gone a short distance Bart came out of the brush and pulled him from his horse. Colley who had followed, came up and knocked the Doctor in the head with an axe, killing him with a single blow. Not finding the coveted treasure on their victim the two colored men prowled around until about midnight when they went to the house and after outraging Mrs. Fisk killed her and the little baby. They then plundered the house, securing about thirty dollars and a watch, and, no doubt with a view of covering their crime, set fire to the home. They then hid the plunder in a corn crib and fled, Colley returning to his cabin on Mr. Dale's farm and Bart, becoming frightened, fled to the timber and hid.

The next morning when the terrible crime was discovered the neighbors gathered in and public feeling ran high. Every man constituted himself a committee of one to hunt and bring to justice the perpetrators of the deed.

Mr. Dale noticed that Colley had changed his clothing and going to his cabin found blood stains on the clothes that he had worn the day

before, and at once communicated his suspicions to his neighbors. In order to test Colley, Mr. Dale sent him to watch by the corpse of Dr. Fisk and help prepare it for burial. Colley, although he had helped prepare a number of bodies for burial before, could not look at the body and begged to be excused saying that he was sick. He was at once arrested and for a time declared that he was innocent, but after a day made a full confession in which he told the details of the awful crime. The money was found, as he said it would be, in the corn crib.

A posse at once started in pursuit of Bart who, being ignorant of the country, had made little progress toward his escape. In traveling at night and on unknown roads and not daring to ask anyone the way, he had never gotten beyond the confines of Jasper county and was captured in the brush near where Georgia City was afterward built.

An examination was had before a committee of citizens, the infuriated people not being willing to wait for the law to take its course and await the convening of the court. It was agreed to put the two negroes to death. Some were in favor of hanging them, while others thought they should be burned at the stake as a warning to others. A vote was taken on the public square in Carthage and fully two to one voted to burn them. The day of execution was fixed as three days from the date.

The largest crowd of people that had ever gathered at Carthage up to this time came to witness the execution. Farmers came for many miles bringing their slaves with them. About 2:30 on the day set, the two negroes were brought out and chained to a stake. The burning took place in a hollow in the northwestern part of the town. About a cord of dry faggots were piled around the men, reaching up to their waists. Two colored men lighted the fire and in a short time the two culprits were burned to death.

Mr. Dale's negro, Colley stood the test bravely and sang songs while the flames leaped about him, and continued to do so until he was suffocated by the smoke. Bart, the other negro, however, screamed and begged for them to liberate him and shortly fainted away and died long before Colley did.

The incident was long after talked of and perhaps caused more excitement than any other event prior to the Civil war.

#### GOING TO MILL

In the pioneer days every farmer took his wheat and corn to the mill to be ground and waited until the grist was turned out, the miller receiving for his pay a portion of the flour or meal.

At the mill every one had to take his turn and during the busy season would sometimes have to wait all day. At the mill the settlers swapped yarns or discussed the public affairs of the day. The following description of the old Sarcoxie mill is given us by one of the early settlers: "When a very small boy I used to carry a bag of corn or wheat on horseback every week to the old Sarcoxie mill to have it ground for bread. The house in which the grain was ground stood a little east of the present commodious mill. It was a frame building sixteen by

eighteen feet, weatherboarded by rough oak plank, neither ceiled, plastered or painted, and was one story high. It set east and west and opened on the south side fronting on the pond. The east and west corners on the south side rested on the bank of the pond. The east and west corners of the north side rested on pillars made of stone built down in the water. By this arrangement the house was so high above the water that one could easily ride horseback under it."

#### SOCIAL AMUSEMENTS

Until after the war there were no large towns in Jasper county and the community was strictly an agricultural one, save the two little mining camps of Leadville and Minersville. The social amusements consisted principally of spelling, apple and husking bees.

It is hardly necessary to describe the spelling bee, or spelling match, as it is more properly called in our day, because we have all participated in these during our school days; but it might be said that the spelling was better mastered perhaps by our fathers and mothers than it is in our day. Webster's Blue Back Speller was the standard in those days, and many a boy and girl mastered it so completely that it was a difficult task to spell them down. There was great rivalry among the communities over the championship at a spelling bee and it was no uncommon occurrence for people to go ten and sometimes twenty miles to attend a spelling bee.

The apple and husking bees occurred in the fall and were great events.

At a husking bee the people gathered together and helped each other husk the corn and, of course, this function took place in the big log barn or corn shed near by. Both men and women attended and as they husked the corn stories and jokes were told, songs were sung and a spirit of jollity prevailed.

The finding of a red ear entitled the finder, if a man, to kiss the prettiest girl at the bee and, of course, the finding of a red ear was the occasion of great excitement and mirth, especially if the girl was bashful, for then it frequently happened that the man had to chase her around the barn several times, or perhaps sprint half over a forty-acre field before he could claim his reward.

The apple bee was a trifle more dignified than the husking bee, for the reason that it was held in the house, and it mattered not whether the weather was fair or stormy because the fire in the massive fireplace drove away the cold and lent a comfort and a cheer to the participants.

The apple bee resembled the husking bee in that the neighbors gathered to help the good house-wife prepare the apples and care for the dried fruit and preserves.

Sometimes as high as ten or twenty bushels of apples would be emptied on the floor and all hands would peel and slice the apples and make them ready for drying. After the apples were sliced they were spread out on boards and the next day, provided the sun was shining, carried



LADY'S HOOD



ORGANDY SUIT



THE DIEGO



out to dry; usually three days were required to thoroughly dry the apples, after which they were packed away in boxes, barrels or other convenient receptacles.

The only part the neighbors took in the process was paring and slicing the fruit and making it ready to dry.

After the apples were cut and sliced, then came the fun. Old-fashioned games were played until the wee small hours of the morning, when the party went home—only to repeat the same thing at another neighbor's house at a near date in the future.

#### A SCHOOL TEACHER TARRED AND FEATHERED

Sarcoxie was perhaps the strongest proslavery settlement in the county, practically the entire community favoring the holding of slaves. We are informed that there were but six families in the entire town who were not southern sympathizers.

In 1858 a man from Kansas was employed to teach the Sarcoxie school and he, being a strong abolitionist, expressed himself freely on the great question. He read the story of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" to his pupils and in many ways taught the evil of slavery. He was asked to resign but did not do so, and one night a body of citizens waited on the teacher and ordered him to leave. On his refusal they escorted him to the woods and gave him a coat of tar and feathers.

#### FIRST NEWSPAPER IN THE COUNTY

In 1859 a publication entitled *The Star of the West and Southwest News* was commenced at Carthage and at the breaking out of the war had, for that date, a good circulation, exerting quite an influence in molding public opinion. C. C. Dawson was the editor.

The paper advocated the cause of the slave-holding interest. During the campaign of 1860 it took a unique position, endorsing all candidates except Abraham Lincoln. At that election there were three factions of Democrats in the county and for policy's sake it antagonized no one save the great champion of the Anti-slavery movement.

After the battle of Carthage the printing press of this paper was turned over to General Price and his army and was used by the Confederacy in printing enlistment contracts, muster rolls and other forms used in the southern army.

#### OLD SHERWOOD

Among the historic old towns of Jasper county which were destroyed during the war, and are now remembered only for what they once were, is the town of Old Sherwood which was built at the junction of the main traveled road running west from Webb City and the road running north from what is now called Bell Center. This town was founded in 1847. In 1856 it was formally platted and at the beginning of the Civil war had perhaps two hundred inhabitants, several good stores and a good brick school house in course of erection. The town of Sherwood,

or Rural as it was first called, grew up around the farm and store buildings of Judge Andrew McKee, who came to the county in an early day and wielded great influence in making the western part of the county a commercial as well as an agricultural center.

A few words about the life and acts of Judge McKee will show the reason for Sherwood's making such an exceptional growth and the reason why it was at one time the chief commercial center of Jasper county. Mr. McKee, who was a native of Tennessee, like most new comers, on coming to Jasper county, first settled at Sarcovie, but soon moved to the western part of the county and homesteaded the land on which the town of Old Sherwood was afterward built. And it was here that he built up a large fortune. Shortly after coming to the western part of the



TYPICAL COUNTRY HOME OF THE 'FIFTIES

county he erected a large brick store and put in a complete line of general merchandise. He also secured the appointment as Indian agent, or "Major Domo" as they were then popularly called in the west, for five tribes of Indians. This brought to his place at certain times during the year large numbers of Indians who traded with the settlers, and this made Sherwood the scene of great activity. We are informed that as high as a thousand Indians have been camped in and around Sherwood at one time.

As his business grew Mr. McKee became a wholesale as well as a retail merchant, and during the winter bought great quantities of hogs and similar produce for shipping to the south in the spring. His sales were usually made at either Fort Smith or Little Rock, Arkansas. One dollar and fifty cents was the standard price paid for hogs delivered at the store, killed and cleaned.

Mr. McKee had at times as high as twenty helpers who cut, salted and packed this pork away in a building constructed solely for that purpose. In the spring two or three flatboats were constructed and floated in Center creek which, at that point being so near to its mouth, could

be floated on to Spring river and thence, by way of the Grand and Arkansas rivers, to the point of destination. The boats were loaded with pork, tallow, hides, etc. When the boats were loaded and on their way Mr. McKee traveled overland and usually arrived at the point of destination several days before the cargo and arranged with some commission merchant for its sale. The entire cargo was usually disposed of in bulk, flatboats and all. The cargo disposed of, it was necessary for the men who had brought the boats down stream to walk home. One of the hands, Harrison Jackson, was so fast a walker that he would beat Mr. McKee (who was on horseback) home a full day.

Mr. McKee was elected a member of the county court in 1846 and held this position until 1850. He was also interested in the development of the mines at Minersville, now called Oronogo.

#### A GREAT EXHIBITION OF FRATERNITY

An incident which occurred at the time of his death, shows the high esteem in which Judge McKee was held. He was a member of the Springfield Lodge, A. F. and A. M., and was a great lover of the order, having many times stated that he desired his Masonic lodge to bury him. His death occurred in August, 1852, and a trusty slave Reuben, who had been all his life in the Judge's family, at once saddled the fastest horse and rode to Springfield to advise the craft of the event. It so happened on the day that Reuben arrived the lodge had arranged to go to a distant part of Greene county and bury another member. Knowing that the body could not be kept until after the other funeral, the master of the lodge told Reuben to return and request the widow to make a temporary burial and that on a certain day the lodge would be present and perform the last sad rites over the body of the deceased. Reuben hastily returned and the body was given temporary interment.

On the day fixed the lodge was present, having come a hundred miles overland, and the impressive Masonic ceremonies were performed at the grave in the presence of friends and neighbors who had come for miles around to show their respect for their old neighbor. This certainly was a most extraordinary exhibition of fraternalism.

Sherwood continued to thrive until 1862, when it was completely destroyed, a mention of which will be made in the Civil war chapter.

#### TOWNS IN JASPER COUNTY BEFORE THE WAR

From the time that Thackery Vivion built his cabin near the Sarcoxie Spring, in 1831, until the breaking out of the war in 1861, a period of three decades, seven towns were founded in the order named.

Sarcoxie—The first settlement.

Carthage—1842.

Sherwood—1846, platted 1856.

Minersville—1848, platted 1856.

Medoc—1848, not platted until after the war.

Avilla—1856, platted 1858.

Preston—1860, platted 1860.

There was no organized form of municipal government in any one of the towns, the peace being preserved by the constable of the township and the justice of the peace therein. As there were no municipal regulations, there was no uniformity in building. The streets were not graded or sidewalks built, except where some enterprising and beauty-loving property owner did so. In short, each of the several towns were country villages, Carthage being the only place that made a pretense at being a city.

Since the several towns had no municipal government, they were not recognized by the United States census officers as separate divisions, and hence were not enumerated separately in the census of 1860.

The population of the several towns is estimated in 1861 to have been as follows:—Carthage, 500; Sarcoxie, 400; Sherwood, 250; Avilla, 100; Minersville, 100; Medoc, 50; Preston, 50.

#### THE FIRST CENSUS OF THE COUNTY

The census of 1850, taken nine years after the organization of the county showed the population to be 4,223; the second census, in 1860, indicated 6,883. The population of Marion township, including Carthage, was 1,177. Sarcoxie township, with the town of Sarcoxie, numbered 1,405.



The Era  
of the  
Civil War



## CHAPTER V

### PRECEDING ACTUAL WARFARE

CIVIL ORGANIZATION DESTROYED—MOLDING INFLUENCES—ARMED NEUTRALITY URGED—VOTES TO REMAIN IN THE UNION—DIVIDED SENTIMENT AND ACTION—THE BORDER GUARDS—FRUITLESS CONFERENCES—FIRST ENGAGEMENT AT BOONVILLE

Jasper was one of the counties in the state where sentiment on the slavery question was divided and as the great strife came on, old friendships were broken, neighbors and frequently families took different sides on the question which was soon to plunge the nation into the War between the States.

It is estimated that at least eight hundred men in Jasper county took up arms during the Civil war, some of them in the Union army and others following the fortunes of the Confederacy.

#### CIVIL ORGANIZATION DESTROYED

One great battle and numerous small engagements and skirmishes were fought within its confines. The county during the first three years of the war was occupied alternately by the armies of both the north and the south and in securing substance for their soldiers each took a liberal share of the crops that were raised, so that those who stayed at home had a hard time to exist; and when it is remembered that many of the families were political enemies, holding allegiance to different governments, it will be readily seen that the people during this period were in a constant state of excitement. As a result the civil organization of the county was completely destroyed.

#### MOLDING INFLUENCES

In order that the reader may have in mind the condition in Missouri at the breaking out of the war and therefore be better able to understand the reasons why southwest Missouri came to be the theater of action at the beginning of hostilities, we give here a brief recital of the important events which transpired in the state and helped to mold public opinion and influenced the acts of its citizens.

On December 20, 1860, South Carolina, through her legislature, passed an ordinance of secession, and almost within a month, six other states—Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Texas—withdrawed from the Union and a call was made for the formation of the Confederate States of America. The other southern states were invited to join with them and help organize the proposed Southern Union.

At this time Missouri was the largest in population of the slave-holding states and it was very much desired by the promoters of the organization of the Confederacy that she should cast her lot with the new government.

When the news came that South Carolina had seceded, Governor Stewart, who was bringing his administration to a close, sent a special message to the legislature and expressed himself as sincerely desirous of keeping Missouri in the Union, but as opposed to the use of force to bring South Carolina back into the Union. He also opposed sending troops into Missouri, either to wrest her from the Union or to keep her in it, and gave it as his opinion that the only proper course for Missouri to pursue was to maintain "an armed neutrality."

#### ARMED NEUTRALITY URGED

Governor Stewart, who had been born and reared in New York state, sympathized with the north, but, living as he did in a slave-holding state and having heard the arguments put forth by the leaders of the south, he desired if possible to avert war and bring about a solution of this great question in some other way. He was very much respected by the people of the state and his idea of maintaining an armed neutrality met with popular approval.

Governor Claiborne Jackson, who took his seat as the chief executive of the state January 3, 1861, unlike Governor Stewart had been reared in the south and believed that Missouri's interest was with the Confederacy. He did not, however, think it proper for the south to take the aggressive and held that they should not fight until the Federal government attempted to force them back into the Union. His plan was for Missouri to be prepared to repel invasion from the north, but to make no aggressive movement unless attacked. He declared that if the Federal government attempted to force South Carolina and other southern states back into the Union, the proper course for Missouri to take would be to secede and join the Confederacy.

Governor Jackson at first advocated secession, but after the state decided to remain in the Union took Ex-Governor Stewart's position of an "armed neutrality" and urged that Missouri defend herself but take no part in the conflict between the states.

Lieutenant Governor Thomas C. Reynolds, who presided over the senate and through the appointment of committees helped in a large way to mold the sentiment of that body, favored secession, believing that an armed neutrality was impossible. He urged an enlargement of the organized militia and a complete equipment of the state's troops in order to be in a position to fight should occasion demand it.



Governor Jackson urged the calling of a convention to determine the relations of the state to the Federal government and, acting on his advice, a bill passed the legislature January 18th calling for a convention of ninety-nine delegates to meet and determine the question of secession. A majority of the members of the legislature favored it. The vote in the house on the bill was 105 for and 18 against. The law provided that should the convention pass an ordinance of secession that it should not become effective until it was ratified by a majority of the voters at an election held for that purpose. It will be observed that whatever might have been the individual wishes of the members of the legislature they did not want to take Missouri out of the Union without the people of the state by their vote declaring in favor of that act. The election was held on February 18th and the convention was called to meet at Jefferson City on the 28th of that month.

The people divided into three parties, Secessionists, Conditional Union and Unconditional Union men. The Secessionists desired to see Missouri join the Confederacy. The Conditional Union men favored Missouri remaining in the Union, providing the Federal government did not attempt to force the southern states back into the Union, General Sterling Price, who afterward joined the Confederate army, and John S. Phelps of Springfield, who raised a regiment for the Union army, were among the leaders of this party. The Unconditional Union party was headed by Frank P. Blair of St. Louis.

Among the prominent Conditional Union men in Jasper county were J. R. Chenault; identified with the Unconditional Union men, Norris Hood, Colonel McCoy, J. R. Stemmons (although a slave holder), J. A. Hunter, John Crow, Samuel B. LaForce and others. The leaders of the secession movement were Colonel A. J. Fallion, Tom Livingston, A. J. Talbott, C. C. Dawson, General Raines and William Cravens.

Judge John R. Chenault was elected to represent Jasper county in the convention. He thought very much on the subject as General Jackson did and favored, if possible, Missouri taking no part in the approaching conflict, but in the event of being drawn into a war between the states for her to secede.

#### VOTES TO REMAIN IN THE UNION

The convention met at Jefferson City on February 28th, and after electing General Sterling Price, ex-governor of the state, president, adjourned to meet in St. Louis on March 4th, the day on which Lincoln was to be inaugurated president. Lincoln's inaugural address appealed very much to the delegates, imbued them with a spirit of his fairness and had much to do with influencing the action of the convention. On March 8th that body by an almost unanimous vote decided against secession, and determined that Missouri should remain in the Union.

#### DIVIDED SENTIMENT AND ACTION

Excitement now subsided until the fall of Fort Sumter, when President Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers. Missouri's quota of this call

was four regiments, and the secretary of war telegraphed Governor Jackson to enlist these for service in the Union army. Jackson declined to do so and declared that Missouri would not furnish a dollar or a man for the war.

Frank P. Blair, of St. Louis, and Captain Lyon (afterward General Lyon) began recruiting men at St. Louis, tendered their services to the government and soon had ten regiments enlisted and drilling daily; nine of these were recruited almost entirely from the German citizens and Colonel Franz Sigel's regiment took part in the battle of Carthage which will be mentioned more fully hereafter. On account of the refusal of Governor Jackson to furnish the four regiments called for by President Lincoln when Fort Sumter was fired upon and his subsequent acts relative to the state troops, there was no organized effort put forth in Jasper county to enlist volunteers for the Union army until after Hamilton R. Gamble assumed charge of the governor's office.

Many Union men, however, went to Kansas and enlisted with the troops from the Sunflower state, others went to the larger towns in the state where recruits were being enrolled, and quite a few returned to their former homes in other states and there enlisted with the soldiers from their home towns.

A considerable number of Jasper county Union men enlisted in the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, which was mustered into the service at Fort Scott.

The southern sympathizers began organizing companies of minute men and began drilling for active service. Companies were drilling nightly at Sherwood, Medoc, Minersville and other places.

On April 20th the government arsenal at Liberty, Missouri, was captured by a company of southern sympathizers organized in Clay county and 15,000 stands of arms and 11,000 pounds of powder carried away, and it was believed that Governor Jackson secretly desired the United States arsenal at St. Louis seized and the 40,000 stands of arms held for emergency.

General Frost, commanding the Missouri State Guard with 700 men went into camp near the arsenal, ostensibly for the purpose of drill, but Captain Lyon believed they were there awaiting a favorable opportunity to capture the arsenal.

On the 9th of May General Frost, having received a report that Captain Lyon intended making an attack on him, sent a letter to that officer disavowing any intention of making an attempt to capture the United States arsenal and invited the Union commander to meet him in conference and come to an understanding that would, if possible, keep the war out of Missouri.

General Lyon, however, refused to receive the letter and the next day made an attack on Camp Jackson and took the militiamen prisoners, releasing them however on their agreeing to take no part in the war. Many of the Conditional Union men now felt that Missouri should prepare for defense and General Sterling Price, who was the president of the con-

vention which voted against secession, offered his sword to Governor Jackson for service and was appointed major general commanding the Missouri State Guards.

Governor Jackson called for 50,000 volunteers to defend the state and also appointed brigadier generals to command the several brigades to be organized. James S. Raines, of Sarcxie, was appointed one of the brigade commanders and a company of eighty men was recruited at Sarcxie and entered the state service.

It is said that the first Confederate flag ever raised in Missouri was flung to the breeze at Sarcxie, the day when the company was mustered into the state service.

#### THE BORDER GUARDS

In the northwestern part of the county a company was formed and known as the Border Guards, being organized for the purpose of preserving order and protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Jasper county. The company was a cavalry command, every man having his own horse and small arms. They had no sabers and for the purpose of drill used wooden swords. The men met for military instruction every Saturday afternoon at the little town of Medoc. The officers of the Border Guards were A. J. Talbott, captain; J. A. Hunter, first lieutenant; Tip Margraves, second lieutenant.

After the call for volunteers by Governor Jackson, Judge Chenault made a visit to Medoc on one of the drill days of the Border Guards and urged them to join Governor Jackson's army to defend Missouri, and Captain Talbott announced that the company would make a formal request for arms from the state. Lieutenant Hunter, who was a Union man, in most vigorous language opposed the company becoming a part of the State Guard, and after a heated discussion of the matter the members departed for their several homes to meet no more as the Border Guards. Lieutenant Hunter and the Union men in the company left the county and enlisted in the Union army, most of them joining in Kansas, while Captain Talbott and the southern sympathizers went into the State Guard.

#### FRUITLESS CONFERENCES

General Harney, commanding the Missouri military division of the United States army, and General Price, of the Missouri State Guard, met in St. Louis and entered into an agreement that they would use their best endeavors to keep the war out of Missouri, and as a part of the agreement General Price dismissed the state troops at Jefferson City and stopped for a time the organization of the State Guard.

General Harney was relieved by the president of the command of the division of Missouri and Captain Lyon, now promoted to brigadier general placed in command. Governor Jackson, at the solicitation of a number of citizens accompanied by General Price and Thomas L. Snead, went to St. Louis to confer with General Lyon on the matter of preserv-

ing peace in Missouri. A conference between General Lyon and Governor Jackson took place at the Planter's Hotel on June 11th. Governor Jackson proposed to disband the Missouri State Guards and use his best endeavors toward keeping peace, providing General Lyon would disband the Missouri volunteers (Union troops). General Lyons promptly answered that he would make no concession to the governor and sent an aide to escort Governor Jackson and General Price out of the Federal lines in St. Louis.

Governor Jackson hastily returned to Jefferson City and after ordering the commanders of the several military districts to assemble their commands for active service issued a call for the legislature to meet in special session at Neosho. He then abandoned Jefferson City and started for Newton county, gathering his army as he went. At Boonville he was met by General John B. Clark, with 700 of the State Guards. General Price, realizing that time would be required to drill and discipline the army, advised a mobilization of the state troops at some place in the southwestern part of the state near the temporary capital which had been selected by Governor Jackson. General Lyon was active and ordered Colonels Sigel, Salmon and Brown with their regiments to proceed to southwest Missouri and intercept Governor Jackson's army and prevent a junction of it with other troops from the south.

Brigadier General Thomas Swinney was placed in command of the expedition and at once set out for Springfield, while General Lyon with two thousand well armed men came up the Missouri river.

#### FIRST ENGAGEMENT AT BOONVILLE

At Boonville a battle was fought between Colonel Marmaduke, of the State Guards, and General Lyon, and resulted in a decisive victory for the Union forces. Governor Jackson now hastily retreated to the south, and General Price was sent to Arkansas to persuade General Ben McCollough of the Confederate army to come to the relief of Governor Jackson, who was marching toward Neosho with the state troops, most of whom were raw recruits and fresh from the farm. General Price expected to drill and prepare the volunteers for service at some point in southwest Missouri.



## CHAPTER VI

### THE WAR IN JASPER COUNTY

CONFEDERATE FORCES—MOVEMENTS OF THE UNION ARMY—BATTLE OF CARTHAGE—NOTES OF THE BATTLE—PRICE AND MCCOLLOUGH ENTER CARTHAGE—COUNTY RAISES A CONFEDERATE REGIMENT—COUNTY RECORDS DURING THE WAR—MEDOC SKIRMISH—THE CORN CREEK ENGAGEMENT—SHIRLEY FORD.

After the engagement at Boonville Governor Jackson retreated to the south and at Lamar was joined by General Raines of Sarcoxie, with the recruits from southwest Missouri. Jackson's army now consisted of about 5,000 men, about 2,000 of whom were expecting to be equipped when the army arrived at Neosho. Many of the companies had only such arms as they had brought from home and they presented a motley array—some with rifles, some with shot guns and some with the old-fashioned squirrel rifles.

#### CONFEDERATE FORCES

The regiments which came from Clay county were equipped with the rifles from the United States arsenal at Liberty and were well drilled and disciplined. The first regiment organized from the companies raised in the counties around Jefferson City were also well armed, having been furnished with rifles purchased at St. Louis and with the equipment received at Jefferson City.

Governor Jackson also had two batteries in his army, six of the guns having been taken from the Liberty arsenal. The cannon that did him the most efficient service however was the "Old Sacramento" under command of Captain Hiram Bledsoe, a veteran of the Mexican war.

#### MOVEMENTS OF THE UNION ARMY

On arriving at Springfield the main body of the Union army halted; Colonel Sigel who was in command of the Third Brigade, Missouri United States Volunteers, was ordered to proceed to southwest Missouri and arrived at Sarcoxie on June 28th. Learning here that General Price with a force of 900 men was encamped on Pool's Prairie, Newton county, he set out at once for that place intending to rout the southerners there and also to prevent a juncture of Governor Jackson's and Price's armies.

## BATTLE OF CARTHAGE

On arriving at Pool's Prairie Colonel Sigel found that Price had already gone to Arkansas and that Governor Jackson and his men were at Lamar, he therefore hurried north to prevent a juncture of Jackson's army and other troops, marching to meet him at Neosho. The two armies met at Coon creek about twelve miles from Carthage and a line of battle was drawn on the ledge that gently inclines toward that stream, July 5, 1861.

Governor Jackson placed Weightman's brigade and Bledsoe's battery with "Old Sacramento," on the right. Slack's brigade, Kelly's regiment and Gubor's batteries were in the center and General Raines with the cavalry, a body of men armed mostly with revolvers and about 1,000 strong, were on the left.

Governor Jackson with the unarmed troops constituted the reserves or as General, then Captain Joe Shelby happily put it, "the line of spectators."

Colonel Sigel's command consisted of 1,100 men including Bickof's and Essig's batteries and although plainly outnumbered he moved his column forward until he came within eight hundred yards of the state troops when he threw his men in line of battle and Captain Essig quickly unlimbered his guns, eight in number—six six-pounders and two twelve-pounders—and opened fire. The fire was returned by Bledsoe. The cannonading was kept up for some time until General Raines with his brigade moved off to the right intending to outflank Sigel and cut off his baggage train. Colonel Sigel, perceiving this move, changed front and ordered two guns to the rear and opened fire. His infantry was formed in a hollow square around the wagon-train, which now had come up, and retreated in good order until they reached Dry fork where a second engagement took place.

The road on the north side of the creek is surrounded by two bluffs and Raines with his men had ridden on either side around Sigel, having placed themselves on the opposite side of the stream to prevent the advance, while Jackson with the infantry came on in the rear. Sigel at once unlimbered his eight guns and opened fire on the state troops who thereupon fell back and the Union commander, ordering a double-quick, crossed the creek under cover of his death-dealing cannon.

Colonel Sigel now moved rapidly toward Carthage, while General Raines and his men harassed him with a continuous fire with their small arms.

At Carthage the Federal commander found the city in possession of the state troops and, finding himself greatly outnumbered, decided to take to the woods on the Sarcoux road which would, together with the darkness, protect him from Raines' cavalry which was surrounding him on all sides and from the Confederate infantry pressing him hard in the rear and making a capture possible. Unlimbering his guns again he poured a deadly volley into the troops in front of him. He formed his regiments into a hollow square again and made through the opening.

The hottest fight now took place and was kept up without a moment's hesitation, from half past six until darkness brought the battle to an end, and under the cover of the darkness Sigel gained the Sarecoxie road and continued his retreat until he reached that town.

#### NOTES OF THE BATTLE

Although many shots were fired in this battle the loss was not great and has been often erroneously reported on both sides. We glean from the official reports of both commanding officers that the loss of Sigel's army was 13 killed and 36 wounded and Jackson's loss was 10 killed and 64 wounded.

"Old Sacramento," Bledsoe's best gun, had in its makeup a considerable quantity of silver and when it was fired had a ring like a bell, being easily distinguished from the other guns in Jackson's command.

Captain Bledsoe displayed great bravery during the fight and when the men who were manning the gun were disabled he loaded and fired it himself.

Essig's battery did most efficient work and no doubt saved Sigel's army from capture.

James Broadhurst of Joplin who took part in the battle and was in Slack's brigade says that Sigel displayed great skill in handling his men on the retreat and used his batteries to the best advantage, always bringing the artillery into action at the critical stage of the fight.

Governor Jackson's army, excepting a few companies was not uniformed; its men wore only the every-day clothing which they had on when they left home.

General Slack was a dignified young southern gentleman and wore during the battle a plug hat, which, by the way, was his every-day hat, and such as the gentlemen of quality who dressed with care used to wear in those days.

General Raines wore a red sash and this distinguished him from the other officers.

The members of Captain Joe Shelby's company were the heroes of General Raines' cavalry and here, like the Light Brigade, charged into the thickest of the fight and displayed that daring and bravery that afterward made his brigade famous.

Colonel Sigel's brigade was composed almost entirely of Germans, many of whom had seen service in the army in the old world, and their precise military movements made a beautiful and impressive scene. The notable feature in his command was the quiet attention given to the commanding officer and the quick and precise manner in which the orders were executed.

Samuel B. LaForce of Carthage, acted as a guide for Sigel on his march from Neosho to Carthage and his knowledge of the roads and topography of the land were of great value to Sigel.

The strength of the Union army was as follows: Third Regiment Missouri Volunteers, U. S. A., 550; Seventh Regiment, Missouri Volunteers, U. S. A., 400; two batteries, 150; total, 1,100.

In his official report of the battle Colonel Sigel complimented his troops by saying that not a man in the entire brigade left the ranks during the twelve hours in which they were under fire, save those who were killed or wounded.

The state troops engaged were as follows: First brigade, including battery, 1,204; second brigade, including cavalry, 1,812; total, 3,016; unarmed men (not taking part in the fight) about 2,000.

#### PRICE AND MCCOLLOUGH ENTER CARTHAGE

The next day after the battle General Price and General Ben McCollough, with the Confederate troops that had come up from Arkansas to help Governor Jackson, arrived at Carthage too late to participate in the battle but in time to participate in the great rejoicing in Jackson's army over the result of the fight with Sigel. McCollough's men were uniformed in the Confederate gray and were well equipped, their steady march and neat appearance greatly impressing the citizens of the county who flocked thither to see the real Confederate soldiers. General Price now led the army to McDonald county where he began drilling and organizing his men.

#### COUNTY RAISES A CONFEDERATE REGIMENT

After the battle of Carthage there was great activity among the southern sympathizers, and the companies of minute men which had been formed in the western part of the county formed the nucleus for a regiment of State Guard which was recruited almost entirely in Jasper county. The regiment when formally mustered into service was known as the Eleventh Regiment, Missouri State Guard. A. J. Talbott who had been the captain of the Border Guards was chosen colonel.

The regiment went the early part of August to join Price's army which was mobilizing on Cowskin prairie in McDonald county.

#### THE LIVINGSTON SCOUTS

The volunteers were enlisted for a term of six months and the enlistment of the Eleventh Regiment, Missouri State Guard, expired in February, 1862, and a large number formally entered the Confederate service. Perhaps half of the regiment returned home, intending to take no further part in the war, but on returning to the county conditions were very much unsettled. Families were arrayed against one another; troops were passing and repassing through the county; Carthage had been fortified by a small garrison of United States troops and the hatred and bitterness between the sympathizers of the two armies was most intense. Finding it impossible to remain at peace at home, T. R. Livingston called together the fragment of the regiment which had returned and organized a battalion of scouts and tendered its service to the Confederacy.

This body of men, like Marion of Revolutionary fame, camped in secluded places in the wood, traveled the unfrequented roads, appearing



and disappearing at unexpected times and places. They would make a quick dash for a wagon train or cut off a small detachment of troops from the main army. They frequently scouted the country in small bands, for the purpose of securing information as to the movement of the enemy and then reassembled at an appointed time and place to report. They participated in a number of engagements, making their last stand at Stockton where their leader was killed.

A number of Jasper county citizens who were southern sympathizers were in Colonel Coffey's regiment, later in Shelby's brigade and also in Captain Jackman's Scouts, a band similar to Livingston's command.

#### COUNTY RECORDS DURING THE WAR

At the breaking out of the war Hon. John R. Chenault was the judge of the circuit court, and has been stated before, was a conditional Union man.

When the war came on he linked his fortune with the south and after the battle of Carthage ordered Stanfield Ross, the circuit clerk, to take the records of the court into the lines of General Jackson's army for safe keeping. The court records were accordingly taken to the Missouri state army, then drilling on the Cowskin prairie and later placed in the vault of the Newton county court house, at Neosho. John Onstott learned that the records had been taken away and feared that they would be lost or destroyed, as his informant told him that the Confederates were using the blank pages of the books for stationery and for the printing of the necessary blanks used by the temporary government set up by Governor Jackson.

Mr. Onstott happily met Norris C. Hood and to him told the incident of the removal of the records. Mr. Hood was "the man of the hour" and, perceiving that quick action was necessary, secured an escort of United States soldiers, went to Neosho and recovered the records which he took to Fort Scott and placed in the vaults of the court house for safekeeping. After the war Mr. Hood took his team and went to Fort Scott after the books and brought them back, not a volume missing. Many of the loose papers and court documents were lost, however, en route to Neosho, and these were not recovered, but the proceedings of the courts and the books of record were preserved intact, and thus the citizens were saved endless litigation.

#### MEDOC SKIRMISH

The first little skirmish after the battle of Carthage occurred at Medoc, on August 23, 1861, between a company of Confederates who were being organized and a company of Union sympathizers en route to Fort Scott to enlist in the United States army.

#### THE COON CREEK ENGAGEMENT

In June, 1862, Captain Joe Shelby, who was afterward General, was commissioned by the Confederate government to raise a cavalry brigade

in Missouri for the southern army. The recruits were to be assembled at Newtonia, four miles east of Neosho, in Newton county and there to be formally mustered into the Confederate service.

The first regiment of this afterward famous brigade was organized in Jackson and Cass counties and on the 15th day of June started south for Newton county. After a hard ride of three days the command was halted at a quiet shady spot on Coon creek, in the northern part of Jasper county, for a much needed rest. The horses were corraled in a nearby field and the men set about to cook their meal. Colonel Cloud, of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry, a regiment which, by the way, contained quite a number of Jasper county men, had been sent into Missouri to protect the lives and property of the citizens. On this same day the regiment named also camped on Coon creek and not more than two miles from Shelby's men. It so happened that the Union soldiers were also very tired, having been in the saddle the greater part of two days and having had a small engagement with Livingston's men at Pilot Grove the day before. By a strange coincidence this beautiful retreat had been chosen by both commanders as an ideal place for a short rest.

As is customary on such occasions, Colonel Cloud put out his scouts to patrol the roads and byways adjacent to the camp, and soon one of these returned and reported "that a bunch of bushwackers" were encamped in the field nearby. Supposing them to be a small detachment of Livingston's men whom he had encountered the day before and thinking they had taken refuge in this secluded spot, the Colonel ordered the captain of Company C to take a detachment of twenty-four picked men and surprise the Confederates. Company G was ordered to make a detour to the rear and to capture the southerners as they came out of the brush. The captain and his men proceeded quickly through the wood until they came to the fence which enclosed the field, where Shelby's men were encamped. As the Union men were climbing over the fence Shelby and his men rose and began firing, killing or wounding fourteen out of the twenty-four men in Company C. The Union men, perceiving that they had far underestimated the strength of the Confederates, retreated to the main command, taking their wounded with them.

Charles W. Elliott, of Oronogo, was a sergeant in Company C and one of the attacking party. On the retreat he and another member of the company carried a wounded comrade who had been shot four times back to the regiment. Men who are fierce in battle are often kind and tender to a wounded enemy. The wounded man was left by Sergeant Elliott and his comrade at the home of a country doctor with the request that he be cared for. The doctor was a strong southern man but was touched with pity for the unfortunate soldier whom he had known well as a former neighbor. His professional obligations also demanded that he treat the wounded man, and so tenderly did he nurse the Union soldier that he recovered and lived to a ripe old age, lived to see the bitterness of the war healed; lived to see a reunited nation and the boys from the north and the south fighting together in the Spanish-American war.

## SHIRLEY FORD

In September, 1862, Colonel Ritchie with the Second Indian Territory Home Guard was sent into southwest Missouri counties and was encamped at the old mill near what is now Lakeside Park.

A regiment of Texas soldiers, together with the Livingston Scouts, planned an early morning attack on the red men. At about 4 o'clock on the morning of September 20th, the Texans and the Scouts came to their camping place, but, although the camp fires were burning brightly, they found no Indians; they had quietly retreated to the west. Putting spurs to their horses the Confederates gave chase and overtook the Indian regiment at Shirley Ford on Spring river, where an engagement took place. On the first charge of the Confederates, the Indians began what at first seemed to be, as Colonel Ritchey in his report expressed it, a Bull Run retreat; but his men rallied and, corraling their horses in the brush, dismounted and returned a vigorous fire. A number of times the Confederates charged them, but could not drive their horses into the thick brush. At length Major Livingston proposed to fight them Indian fashion and, in place of a charge from the front, to ride down the main road at full speed and separate the regiment from the wagon train which had been taken across the river to a place of safety. This plan did not meet with the approval of the Texas commander, and in a hasty word-encounter between the Texan and Livingston the latter said: "Colonel, if you will give me command of your regiment for thirty minutes I will capture the whole — regiment, wagon train and all." The Colonel haughtily ordered Livingston and his men to the rear. Livingston, quick-tempered and impetuous, said: "Colonel you can take your regiment and go straight to — and I will take my command and go where I — please."

This ended the fight and the Texan without exchanging another word wheeled with his regiment to the right and rode off the field, leaving Livingston and his men who, after the last of the Texans were out of sight, moved his command to the south. The Indians were left in possession of the field. The next day on returning to bury his men who had been killed in the engagement, Livingston found that Ritchey and his men had gone west into Kansas.

## CHAPTER VII

### THE WAR CONTINUED

THE FOURTH MISSOURI AND JACKMAN'S SCOUTS—FISHER'S COMPANY OF UNITED STATES VOLUNTEERS—THE SIXTH KANSAS SCOUTS INTO THE COUNTY—TWO SKIRMISHES AT FRENCH POINT—NEGRO REGIMENT AND BURNING OF SHERWOOD—A GIRL'S DARING AND BRAVERY—KATIE SILL'S BISCUIT—CAPTAIN BURCH'S SCOUTS ON TURKEY CREEK—SHELBY'S RAIDS—REMOVAL OF CONFEDERATE FAMILIES—THE RETURN OF THE VETERANS.

On November 18, 1862, Major G. W. Kelley, commanding the Fourth Missouri State Militia (Union), was sent into Jasper county for the purpose of dispersing Colonel Jackman's Scouts (Confederates), who were foraging in Jasper county; an engagement took place November 20th near Carthage.

The fight was of short duration but a desperate one, the men engaging in a hand to hand combat. The result was a Union victory. Several prisoners were taken by Major Kelley's command, together with a number of horses.

During the same month Quantrell, with a thousand men, passed through Jasper county en route to McDonald county. With a view of protecting the people of southwest Missouri from Quantrell, United States troops were thrown into that section of the state in great numbers, a garrison being placed at both Sarcoxie and Carthage.

#### FISHER'S COMPANY OF UNITED STATES VOLUNTEERS

After Hon. Hamilton R. Gamble was chosen as the provisional governor of Missouri a call was made for volunteers, and these were at first called Enrolled Militia of Missouri, serving in conjuncture with the United States volunteers and regular army. Captain Fisher, of McDonald township, raised a company of men for this service and the enlistments were almost entirely from Jasper county. The company participated in a number of engagements. Captain Fisher was killed in a skirmish with the Livingston Scouts on Spring river near the present site of La Russell. After the term of enlistment had expired most of the members joined the Fifteenth Missouri Cavalry and served to the end of the war.



## THE SIXTH KANSAS SCOUTS INTO THE COUNTY

On Sunday, March 8, 1863, the Sixth Kansas Volunteers entered Jasper county on a scout and passed through the section from Diamond Grove to Sherwood, which place the Federal troops occupied. On March 9th, south of Sherwood and not very far from the present western limits of Joplin, the scouting party met Livingston's men about one hundred strong and a short fight ensued, in which Sergeant Isaac Fountain of the Sixth Kansas and a Jasper county citizen was wounded. The Confederate scouts sustained a severe loss.

## TWO SKIRMISHES AT FRENCH POINT

In May, 1863, Colonel Crittenden sent a scouting party into Jasper county from Newtonia, Newton county. The command divided into three companies, or bands, scouting along Center and Turkey creeks.

Captain Cassair of the Eighth Missouri United States Volunteer Cavalry, took the north side of the creek and Captain Hensley, of the Seventh Missouri, took the south side. They proceeded west until they came to the home of Major Livingston at French Point, west of Oronogo, where a severe hand-to-hand fight took place, the Federal troops being repulsed. Returning, however, on the 18th the attack was renewed and Livingston driven from his position with a considerable loss of men on both sides.

The first fight at French Point took place on May 14, and for the next six days a number of small skirmishes occurred, both commands sleeping on their arms by night and fighting during the day. Major Enos, of the Eighth Missouri Regiment United States Volunteers, in his report of the first fight at French Point pays a high compliment to Private Horace Palmer of his command. When the retreat was ordered Palmer exclaimed "I did not volunteer to run, I volunteered to fight. Right here I die," and dismounting from his horse coolly commenced shooting at the Confederates, firing eighteen shots before he was captured.

## NEGRO REGIMENT AND BURNING OF SHERWOOD

During the third year of the war the government began enlisting the negroes in the army of the United States. This greatly enraged the south and when the southern soldiers came in contact with a negro regiment they fought them with all the fury that the high-spirited southerners could command.

A regiment of colored soldiers was being organized at Baxter Springs, Kansas, and quite a number of Jasper county colored men were enlisted.

June 15th, 1863, Colonel Williams, commanding the regiment, sent a foraging party into Jasper county and they fixed temporary headquarters at the farm house of Captain Rader, who was away from home serving with the southern army. The Rader home was at that time the finest house in the western part of the county, being a two-story ten-room structure. Captain Rader's mother and sisters were driven from the house.

On the 19th of May, the next day after the second engagement at French Point, Major Livingston surprised the negroes, killing twenty-three and wounding seven in a running fight which was kept up from the Rader place to the Spring river crossing, a distance of about eight miles. The train of six wagons and thirty mules also fell into the hands of the Confederates, together with a large quantity of ammunition which was in the wagons. The next day a detachment of three hundred Federal soldiers came over from Baxter and burned the town of Sherwood, together with the farm houses of the southern sympathizers in the neighborhood.

\*Major Livingston in his official report of the affair to General Price states that eleven of the negroes (those who fell at the farm house) were taken by the United States troops together with a man named Bishop, a southern citizen whom they had killed, and placed in the Rader house, after which the structure was fired and the bodies of the eleven dead colored soldiers and the white man cremated in the burning building.

The town of Sherwood was strongly southern, a company of the Eleventh Missouri State Guard and later a part of Livingston's command having been recruited there.

After the burning of Sherwood many of the southern families, feeling that their safety demanded it, left the county, most of them going to Texas and remaining there until the war was over.

#### A GIRL'S DARING AND BRAVERY

Eliza Vivion, a granddaughter of Thackery Vivion, the first settler in Jasper county, at the breaking out of the Civil war was a pretty miss of thirteen. Born and raised in Jasper county and used to the hardships of pioneer life, she early learned to brave danger. Her people were strong southern sympathizers and her brother enlisted in the Confederate army—first in the Eleventh Missouri State Guard and later, after the first term of enlistment had expired, in the Livingston Scouts. Miss Vivion often acted as a messenger for the southerners and we are told that she frequently would ride during the darkness of the midnight hour to apprise the southern troops of the movements of the northern army. She was an expert horsewoman, could take a fence on her fiery steed as well as a man, and went on many a wild ride to bring news to Livingston's command or to carry a message from him to the main army. She rode many a time through the woods, and when necessary swam the swollen streams in order to take a shorter route to her point of destination.

After the burning of Sherwood Miss Vivion and her mother gathered together what small effects that could be taken in a wagon and she drove

\* The report of Major Tom Livingston was contradicted by the Federals, who lay the blame of the burning of the negroes to the Confederate partisan hands who retaliated. In his official statement, however, Colonel Williams reports the destruction of the town.

the ox team to Texas, thus saving enough household effects to furnish a bed-room and the kitchen.

After the war the Vivions returned to Jasper county and few people of today would recognize, in dignified Mrs. E. A. Jammison, the girl who in the days that tried the hearts of brave men and noble women performed so many daring deeds for the southern cause.

#### KATIE SILL'S BISCUIT

Among the pioneer settlers of Jasper county was Mrs. Katie Sill (nee Katie Pennington), who came to Jasper county in 1840 and who has been a resident of it, excepting a short time during the later part of the Civil war, up to this time. Although eighty-five years old, she is an exceptionally well-preserved woman and relates with much pleasure the happenings of the early days of the county.

Mrs. Sill was a famous cook and noted throughout the western part of the county for the excellency of her biscuit, which according to the old settlers, who ate at her table, were so good "that they would melt in your mouth." During the first year of the war small detachments of soldiers of both armies frequently passed her house—Union sympathizers going to Fort Scott or Baxter to enlist and those who followed the Stars and Bars, going to their rendezvous for drill or departure for the south. (Four full companies of the regiment of Missouri State Guards were recruited in the western part of the county).

It was no uncommon occurrence for these detachments to stop at Mrs. Sill's house and ask her to cook them some of her good biscuit. At first she willingly complied, for although a southern sympathizer her people endeavored to remain neutral and take no part in the conflict. But the second year of the war it was difficult to keep enough in the house to feed the family, and so one day when a troop of Confederate scouts dismounted in front of the Sill homestead and asked for biscuit such as only she could make her heart sank within her, because the larder was nearly empty and a look in the pantry told her that to cook for that troop would empty the flour barrel and there would be nothing left for the family. Yet she dare not refuse lest she would gain the ill will of the troopers who were tired, thirsty and hungry. So she set to work, and just as she was taking the first batch from the oven (the bread filling the house with an aroma that made the men smack their lips with joyful anticipation of the good things in store) a bugle call was heard and looking up over the hill a regiment of Union cavalry was seen approaching at a quick gallop. The Confederates, perceiving that to stop to eat would let them fall into the hands of a much larger force, quickly mounted and rode away leaving the biscuit. Mrs. Sill, perceiving that the biscuits might be saved for the family, hastily threw them into a cradle and covered them up with a blanket. The Union soldiers stopped when they reached the house but did not look in the cradle, and so the biscuit which had been cooked for the troop of Confederates were saved and the family ate them with great relish.



## AT DIAMOND GROVE

On May 26, 1863, a fight occurred near Diamond Grove between Colonel Cloud, commanding the Sixth Kansas Cavalry and Colonel Coffey with his Confederate band of one hundred men. The notable feature of this engagement was that Coffey's men fought Indian fashion, hiding in the brush and behind the big trees, thus keeping out of the way of the Kansans when they charged.

## CAPTAIN BURCH SCOUTS ON TURKEY CREEK

On the evening of November 29, 1863, Captain Milton Burch, of the Eighth Missouri Cavalry, United States Volunteers, stationed at Neosho with a detachment of his men, made a scouting expedition into Jasper county for the purpose of capturing a number of southern sympathizers who were members of the Livingston Scouts and who were at home on a furlough.

The party scouted along Turkey creek from near its head to the western limits of the county. They went to the houses where the Confederate soldiers lived, surprised and captured them in their beds. At one place a soldier attempted to escape by raising a couple of boards in the floor and going under the house. When the Union soldiers entered his wife endeavored to attract their attention and keep them away from the opening. She succeeded in getting them out of the house but after going a short distance they returned, feeling sure that the southerner was at home, and feigned to set fire to the house. The ruse was successful, for the woman screamed and the man came from his hiding place and surrendered. Six southern men were captured on this scout and two killed.

## SHELBY'S RAID

In October, 1863, General Joe Shelby's brigade made a raid through the western part of Missouri, and on this 1500-mile ride passed twice through Jasper county, each time securing forage and other supplies from the farmers for his command. A considerable damage was done to property in the east central part of the county, particularly in the neighborhood of Bowers' mill, where an engagement took place.

General Thomas Ewing was sent into Jasper county with two thousand men in pursuit of Shelby, and a skirmish occurred near Carthage with a considerable loss of men on both sides. Although the fight could hardly be called a battle it was sometimes referred to as the second battle of Carthage.

During Ewing's occupancy of Jasper county a considerable quantity of fresh meat was required for the army and it will be readily seen that after feeding two great armies not much was left for the people.

An interesting story is related by one of Shelby's men, now a resident of Joplin, who says that on this raid most of the Confederate soldiers were clothed in the blue uniforms of the northern soldiers, whom they had captured, their grey uniforms being worn out, and having no



money with which to buy more. In order that the Confederate soldiers might know their comrades, each wore in his hat a red sumach plume.

#### REMOVAL OF CONFEDERATE FAMILIES

After the Quantrell raid at Lawrence, Kansas, General Scofield adopted the policy of removing the Confederate sympathizers from the state, with the view of ridding the border counties of partisan bands by destroying the sustenance for their support and leaving no sympathizers to shelter or help them.

General Ewing, at Kansas City, issued his much talked-of Order No. 11. General Scofield, of Springfield, commanding the Southwest Missouri district, issued similar orders for that part of the state, but they were not so stringent as General Ewing's.

All families not loyal to the government were ordered to leave and many who held their fealty to the Confederacy went to Arkansas, Texas and other southern states. Some of them never returned but after peace was declared; some of them returned to their old homes.

#### THE RETURN OF THE VETERANS

It was thought by many that when the war was over and the soldiers returned home that much lawlessness would result because of the intense feeling of hatred that had been engendered during the few years preceding and during the war.

But the world now witnessed one of the greatest achievements of modern times, a million soldiers, men of the north and south, laid down their arms and returned to their homes and at once began rebuilding the towns and villages that had been destroyed; the fields that had been furrowed by cannon shot and shell were cultivated again; the old homes were rebuilt and, in many instances, from the ruins and ashes that came from that bitterly fought war, arose new towns and new homes greater and grander than the ones built by the fathers.

In an incredibly short time the old friendships were renewed, and the families that had been arrayed against one another were reunited.



Reorganization  
and  
Reconstruction  
1865-1870





## CHAPTER VIII

### REORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY

CAVE SPRINGS, TEMPORARY COUNTY SEAT—HONEST JOHN ONSTOTT AND THE TREASURY—CARTHAGE REESTABLISHED AS THE COUNTY SEAT—SUBSTANTIAL NEW-COMERS—REGISTRATION UNDER "TEST OATH"—COUNTY OFFICERS (1865-70)—THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AT THE COUNTY SEAT—CARTHAGE BANKS—ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "CARTHAGE BANNER"—TOWNS FOUNDED IN THE 'SIXTIES—TOWN POPULATION IN 1869.

The revised constitution of Missouri went into effect on July 4, 1865, and immediate steps were taken by the governor to reorganize the counties which had been disorganized during the war, and the following officers were appointed to assume the reins of government in Jasper county: County court—W. B. Hamilton, F. B. Nichols and Thomas Caldwell; sheriff—S. H. Caldwell; county clerk—W. G. Bulgin; treasurer—J. H. Fullerton; prosecuting attorney—Joseph Estus. Hon. John H. Price was judge of the circuit court.

#### CAVE SPRINGS, TEMPORARY COUNTY SEAT

As Carthage had been destroyed during the war and the court house burned, the governor named Cave Springs in the east-central part of the county as the temporary county seat, and here the newly appointed county officers assembled October 10, 1865, and assumed their respective offices. They at once began the task of reorganizing the county.

Officers were appointed for the several townships and road districts. Steps were taken to collect the interests on the school fund, to forfeit lands where payments had not been made and to collect the several notes which were due in payment for swamp lands with the view of reorganizing the schools of the county.

#### HONEST JOHN ONSTOTT AND THE TREASURY

At the first session of the county court held after the reorganization, the closing act of one of the heroic incidents of the Civil war took place—the final transaction in the saving of the county treasury.

At the election 1860 Archibald McCoy was elected county treasurer and entered upon the duties of the office January 1, 1861, with John Onstott, John Scott and Martin Holsey as bondsmen.

Early in the war Mr. McCoy became alarmed and decided to flee

for his life. He called his bondsmen together and announced his intention of leaving the state, and asked them to take the money belonging to the county and relieve him of the responsibility before his departure. John Scott was chosen by the bondsmen to take the money. The next day Mr. McCoy was killed. A few days later Mr. Scott decided to leave the state, his life also having been threatened, and accordingly came to Mr. Onstott and turned over the money to him, two hundred and fifty dollars in Missouri state bank notes and about thirteen hundred dollars in gold.

Mr. Onstott placed the money in a large glass candy jar and buried it on his farm. After the county funds had been buried for about a year, fearing that the bills would decay he dug up the money and after removing the bank notes, which were almost decomposed, he replaced the gold in the hiding place. Shortly after removing the paper money to his house a company of Pin Indians, members of a United States Volunteer regiment, swooped down on the Onstott house and carried away the two hundred and fifty dollars besides other property.

In the spring of 1863, seeing that local conditions were most deplorable—the county being the scene of activity for numerous foraging parties from both armies—also that the hatred and bitterness caused by the war was most intense and feeling that his own life was in danger—Mr. Onstott took his son Abraham (A. W. Onstott, mining superintendent, Joplin), who was then a boy of about twelve, and confided to him the secret of the county treasurer. After showing him the hiding place he told his son that in the event of his death he wanted him to guard the treasure as a sacred trust and, when the war was over and the county reorganized, to restore it to the proper officers. Shortly after this, feeling that his safety was in danger the father secured a pass for himself and family for safe conduct through the Federal lines and went northeast into Dade county, with instruction for his wife and son to follow should conditions seem to demand it.

In 1863 General Thomas Ewing entered Jasper county in pursuit of General Joe Shelby, the famous Missouri cavalry leader of the southern army and after several short skirmishes went into camp in and around the Onstott farm, using the old farm place as his headquarters.

Young Onstott and his mother seeing that this was an opportune time to remove the money to a safer place, also to join Mr. Onstott, secured an escort from General Ewing's army and after digging up the money, which was safe and sound and not a dollar missing, placed it in a sack with some produce and started to join the elder member of the family, whom they met in Dade county and with him went north to Pettis county where they lived until the close of the war.

While in Pettis county the money was securedly hidden under the floor of the house and there remained until Mr. Onstott returned to Jasper county in the spring of 1865. On his return, however, he found things still in an unsettled condition, the county court house had been burned; some of the county records had been lost and those that had been preserved were in the court house at Fort Scott, Kansas, where

they had been taken for safe keeping. The county was completely disorganized; there were no officers or county records and so Mr. Onstott again buried the county money where it remained until shortly after peace was declared and the county was reorganized.

On the day the court opened its session at Cave Springs Mr. Onstott, accompanied by his son, Abraham, went to the place designated for the assembling of that body (a tumble-down store building), and when the court was ready for business appeared before them and informed them that he had come for the purpose of restoring the county funds. Then, opening a sack in which he had brought the treasure the honest man emptied it on the table, while the court and other officers looked on in amazement not knowing that a dollar had been saved, the treasurer's book having been destroyed when the court house was burned.

The court then questioned Mr. Onstott sharply as to the amount of money which the bondsmen had received from the treasurer before he had been killed, and demanded that the two hundred and fifty dollars which had been taken from the Onstott home by the Indians be made good. Mr. Onstott said that he felt in honor bound to return every cent, but thought it only right that he be allowed to return to the county two hundred and fifty dollars of Missouri bank notes, the same kind of money which he had received. The court decided, however, that as the Missouri bank had failed during the war and the money had little or no value that the two hundred and fifty must be replaced with two hundred and fifty dollars of United States legal tender notes.

Mr. Onstott said if that was the way they felt about it that he would bring in two hundred and fifty dollars of legal tender to take the place of the stolen two hundred and fifty Missouri state bank notes.

The court then passed a resolution demanding that Mr. Onstott pay the county the interest on the money for the time it had been in his possession. At this he became righteously indignant. For four years he had guarded the county fund as a sacred trust; he had risked his life to save this money; and now to be asked to pay interest for the use of money which he had so carefully guarded from spoliation was more than he could stand, and so he rose hastily from his seat and placing the money back in the sack said, "gentlemen I had done what I thought was right, but as for the interest I will law you to the last court before I will pay one dollar of your unjust demand."

The court perceiving that they had made a blunder quickly decided to accept the money. Mr. Onstott then reopened the sack and left with them the money he had brought. Returning home he sold his wagon and horses for two hundred and fifty dollars and took to the court this money, to replace the state bank notes which had been stolen from his home during the war. After Mr. Onstott had turned over to the county court the two hundred and fifty dollars of paper money they reopened the question of interest and brought suit against him to recover the same.

The suit on coming on for trial was dismissed. The old timers, who appreciated the honesty of Mr. Onstott, often referred to the incident as the case where the treasurer was indicted for being an honest man.



## CARTHAGE REESTABLISHED AS THE COUNTY SEAT

There were no conveniences for holding court or caring for the county offices at Cave Springs. The sessions of the court were held in the old schoolhouse and there was no place that could be used for a jail, or a safe place in which to keep the records, and the people clamored for the removal of the county seat back to Carthage, which was not only centrally located but had the advantage of a fairly good system of public roads which had been worked before the war.

The few remaining citizens of Carthage and the surrounding neighborhood at once began to rebuild. We are informed by J. C. Gaston, of Joplin, one of the first new-comers to Carthage after the war, that in the spring of 1866 there were less than a dozen families in Carthage. He and his estimable wife arrived there in April of that year.

Mrs. Gaston made the ninth woman residing within the radius of one mile from the square. We cite this incident to show how completely



FORMER CHURCH USED AS A COURT HOUSE IN THE 'SIXTIES

the town had been depopulated and how thoroughly the old town had been razed during the battle of Carthage and the numerous raids and skirmishes which took place in and around the county seat.

From the ruins of the old county court house enough bricks and lumber were collected to build a small court house on the northwestern part of the lot on which now stands the county jail, and to this building were brought the records in September, 1866, and with the holding of court there on the 24th of that month, the reestablishment of the county seat at Carthage was completed.

## SUBSTANTIAL NEW-COMERS

The opportunities in Jasper county were exceptionally great. There were yet unsold 100,000 acres of the school lands, counting those which had been forfeited during the war, and these tracts were on the market at a small figure. The opportunity to get splendid farms at exceptionally



low prices brought in a large number of new settlers, and it might be here remarked that the new comers, for the most part, were energetic, intelligent and enterprising citizens and that their thrift, enterprise and education built up a splendid social structure and gave the county a prestige which at once pushed her to the front.

We note among those who came to the county during the later 'sixties the following named gentlemen, each of whom has played an important part in the history of the county: O. H. and W. H. Picher, W. H. Phelps, Al Thomas, M. G. McGregor, A. H. and W. H. Caffee, A. M. Drake, J. C. Gaston, John Reynolds, Pat Murphy, C. W. Elliott, J. M. Young, G. W. Crow, W. H. Cloud, Peter Myers, C. A. Cassel, E. W. Harper, T. Regan, W. H. Moore and George Raider.

#### REGISTRATION UNDER "TEST OATH"

The revised constitution of Missouri went into effect July 4th, 1865, and contained among other provisions that as a precedent to exercising the right of franchise, serving on juries and holding office, "a test oath" should be taken and subscribed to in which the party make affidavit that he had been loyal to the Union. The law also provided that ministers, teachers and lawyers could not follow their vocation unless they had taken the Iron-Clad oath and a copy of such was on file in the county clerk's office.

To enforce this law a register was appointed in each county to make a list of the qualified voters and to administer the oath to such as desired to be registered.

Samuel B. LaForce was the first register and held his office from 1866 to 1868. He was succeeded by Thomas Buckner.

The general assembly of 1869 passed a law providing for a board of three registrars who sat for three days and examined all who appeared.

This law, of course, disfranchised all of the citizens of the county who had been in the Confederate army, and quite a number who had taken no part in the war were not able to prove their loyalty and their names were stricken from the registration books.

There was a light vote polled in the county at the election of November, 1866, for two reasons—first, because only the loyal citizens could vote and, secondly, because most of the new-comers who might otherwise have registered had not yet gained their citizenship by the required one year's residence.

#### THE FALL ELECTION OF 1866

The only party in 1866 was the Republican party, and not much interest was manifested in the election excepting for the nomination of candidates, but in 1868 a new local party came into existence and, although not victorious, polling less than one-third of the vote of the county, put up a good fight and made the campaign both exciting and interesting.

## THE ISSUE

Many of the Republicans when the war was over advocated the policy of extending the hand of fellowship to the defeated party of the south, granting them the right of suffrage and restoring to them all of their civil rights. This faction was called the Liberal Republicans and those who opposed restoring the rights of citizenship were called Radicals.

The Liberal Republican party in Jasper county formed the People's Club and the few Democrats in the county who were eligible to vote affiliated with the Liberals.

The leaders of the two factions in Jasper county were for the Radicals, Colonel W. H. Cloud, ex-colonel of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry; W. H. Garland, editor of the Banner; J. M. Young, superintendent of the Granby Company; J. S. Rhoades, O. H. Picher, Charles W. Elliott and E. M. Burch.

The leaders of the People's Club (Liberal Republicans) were Norris C. Hood, L. C. Cunningham and W. Baxla. S. R. H. Rose and J. F. Hopkins were neutral, and W. H. Phelps and Franklin Davis, Democrats.

The campaign was hotly contested and was closed on October 25th by the Radicals with a rally at Carthage which was attended by three thousand people. One of the features of the rally was a horseback parade which contained ten marching clubs, some from out of the county. The registration of the county in 1868 was as follows: McDonald township, 209; North Fork township, 90; Preston township, 167; Jasper township, 91; Center Creek township, 97; Mineral township, 173; Jackson township, 143; Marion township, 499; Sarcoxie township, 228. Total, 1,697.

So hotly contested was the campaign that 1,643 votes out of the above registration cast their ballots.

The principal interest centered in the election of representative, the Radical candidate being Colonel J. Morris Young of Minersville and the People's Club candidate, Norris C. Hood of Carthage.

The presidential vote in the county was as follows: U. S. Grant, Republican, 1,199; H. Seymour, Democrat, 444.

On account of the activities of the People's Club Mr. Hood, the candidate of the Liberal Republican party, polled a good vote, but he was defeated by Colonel Young by a considerable majority running slightly behind General Grant, the presidential candidate.

## COUNTY OFFICERS (1865-70)

During the later 'sixties the following officers served the county from the reorganization until 1870 which was designated the reconstruction period.

Sheriffs—S. H. Caldwell, 1865-8; C. E. Spencer, 1869-72.

County Court—W. B. Hamilton, 1865-7; F. B. Nichols, 1865-7; Thomas Caldwell, 1865-7; John Hornback, 1867-8; John Percell, 1867-72; W. J. Cameron, 1867-8; William B. Hamilton, 1868; Isaac E. Koring, 1868-73; J. T. Willoughby, 1868-71.

County clerks—William J. Bulgian, 1865-7; Samuel B. LaForce, 1867-71.

County Treasurers—Jess H. Fullerton (three months), 1865; James F. Spencer, 1866; George Rader, 1867; Norris C. Hood, 1868; Josiah Lane, 1869-70.

Judges of Common Pleas Court—Hon. O. H. Picher, 1867-73.

Prosecuting Attorneys—Joseph Estus, 1865; Jas. Allison, 1866; G. W. Randolph, 1868-9; John Q. Page, 1867-70.

Judges of Circuit Court—Hon. John C. Price, 1865-8; Hon. B. L. Hendrick, 1868-74.

Representatives—Edmund Burch, 1866-8; J. Morris Young, 1869-70.

County School Commissioners—J. T. Willoughby, 1867-9; W. J. Sieber, 1869-71.

Registers of Votes—S. B. LaForce, 1866-8, 1869-70.

#### THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

On March 4, 1869, the legislature passed an act creating the court of common pleas for Jasper county. The court exercised probate jurisdiction; appellate jurisdiction in appeal cases from the mayor of Carthage and from justices of the peace, and original and concurrent jurisdiction in cases where the amount involved did not exceed one thousand dollars. Hon. O. H. Picher, of Carthage, was appointed the first judge and re-elected in 1870.

#### BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AT COUNTY SEAT

In 1866 A. M. Drake established in Carthage a hardware store, and for years his was the largest hardware and implement store in the county.

The same year A. H. & W. H. Caffee, with J. C. Young, established the drug business which before the death of the senior member of the firm had grown to be the largest store of the kind in the county.

T. Regan established a saw-mill at Carthage and advertised to saw lumber on shares. In the 'sixties and early 'seventies, this was a great mill and did a thriving business. One dollar and a half per one hundred feet was paid for logs and the mill turned out laths, dimension lumber and plain oak boards.

Gaston and Reynolds were the principal architects and builders of Carthage.

Louis Gerkey was the boot and shoe man.

Ruffin & McDonald were general merchants and carried a large line of all kinds of wares; Grey & O'Keif and S. B. Corn were the leading dry-goods firms and Mars & Cahn were clothiers.

At the close of 1869 Carthage had fully two thousand inhabitants and twenty good stores of various kinds.

#### CARTHAGE BANKS

Two banks were established in Carthage in 1867—the Bank of Carthage and the private bank of Peter Myers & Company.



JASPER COUNTY'S FIRST BANK AND ITS FOUNDER



C. A. Cassell was the president and E. W. Harper cashier of the Bank of Carthage. Both banks did a good business, enjoyed an extensive patronage and lent a financial dignity to the county.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "CARTHAGE BANNER"

A good newspaper has much to do in shaping the destinies of any community. Before the war the *Southwest News* had exerted a great influence in creating a secession sentiment in Jasper county and so, in 1866 when W. H. Garland founded the *Carthage Banner*, he brought into the community a great force for the Republican party. It was for years an exponent of Republicanism and a paper of the fighting kind. Mr. Garland was a fluent writer and forceful in argument.

The *Banner* was also a newspaper and in its columns were chronicled all of the important happenings. It was later edited by A. F. Lewis and continued to be a power in the county until 1888, when it was sold.

In compiling this history of Carthage we have had the use of a file of the *Carthage Banner* kept by John Nilson, of Carl Junction, who became a subscriber to the paper in 1868 and was one of its readers until it passed to the *Carthage Press*.

#### TOWNS FOUNDED IN THE 'SIXTIES.

Franklin Sides laid out an addition to Fidelity (a village which had been founded in 1856 by William Cloe) and erected a large store building. S. H. Caldwell, on closing his term of office as sheriff, began the erection at Fidelity of a large mill and for a time this little village gave promise of being a town of importance. Fellowship Lodge No. 345, A. F. & A. M., now of Joplin, was founded here in 1869.

There is nothing now left of the town save the memory of its great promise and speculation as to what it might have been.

The same year (New) Medoc was laid off, about a quarter of a mile west of the old trading point, by William A. Allison, and at once grew to be a town of importance. 1868 saw the town with approximately two hundred people and the following industries: One saw-mill, two dry-goods stores, one general store, two hotels, one meat market, one grocery store, one cooper shop and two blacksmith and wagon shops.

Medoc Lodge No. 335, A. F. & A. M. (now Joplin Lodge No. 335), was organized at Medoc on June 18, 1869. During that year also four churches carried on the work of evangelization.

Among the leading merchants at Medoc were Williams & Green, Holen & Son and Allison & Bell.

The leading spirit of the town was Dr. Thomas Donehoo.

Georgia City was laid out January 18, 1868, by John C. Guinn and named after his native state. William A. Fugit, John C. Cox & Son started stores there, and Georgia City for a time was a flourishing town. Some years ago the town plat was vacated and is now farm land, there remaining of the original town only a store and a blacksmith shop. John

C. Guinn, the founder of the town, is rated the largest real estate owner in the county, possessing 17,000 broad acres of Jasper county land.

In 1868 Franklin Side laid off the town of Diamond, in northern portion of Diamond Grove, and erected there a large store building, hauling the lumber overland from Sedalia. Like Fidelity the business of this town did not flourish after the founding of the mining town of Scotland and is now only a memory.

Galesburg was platted 1869 by John R. Cabbanis on the site of the old Talbott mill, which was burned in 1861. Mr. Cabannis rebuilt the property, making it larger and placing therein better and more improved milling machinery. He also added to this a carding plant and his mill at once became famous. A postoffice was established at the town and Mr. Cabannis was appointed postmaster. The Galesburg dam across Spring river is one of the best in the county. The water has a free fall of some nine feet and furnishes a water power sufficient to run a much larger plant.

During the 'sixties Sarcoxie was incorporated as a village, the date being August 29, 1868. After a short period the government was discontinued for a time, the people feeling that the additional advantages to be gained did not compensate the extra cost of government. It was not reincorporated, therefore, until the 'eighties.

Sarcoxie was rebuilt during the reconstruction period, but did not at once attain to its former importance.

#### TOWN POPULATION IN 1869

In March, 1869, the *Carthage Banner* published a statement giving the estimated population of the several towns of Jasper county, based upon an actual count in Carthage (a special census) and an estimate of the other towns based on the number of families residing in the same. The *Banner's* figures on the population were as follows: Carthage, 1,782; Minersville, 350; Sarcoxie, 300; Medoc, 225; Georgia City, 200; Avilla, 160; Galesburg, 100; Fidelity, 50; New Sherwood, 30.

Sarcoxie and Carthage both had a regular stage-line making connections with Springfield, and there was also a considerable overland travel from Carthage to Neosho, Baxter Spring, Fort Scott and Sedalia, the latter point being the principal base of supplies. Most of the merchandise and other freight came to Jasper county overland, via Sedalia.

It will be readily seen how anxious the people were for a railroad and how eagerly they took up with any proposition looking to a better means of transportation.

## CHAPTER IX

### OF GENERAL COUNTY MOMENT

JASPER COUNTY VOTES RAILWAY BONDS—RAILROAD MEETINGS—WHY RAILROAD BONDS WERE DESTROYED—REOPENING OF THE MINES—HOW THE NAME WAS CHANGED TO ORONOGO—THE FIRST JASPER COUNTY FAIR—CHURCHES DURING REORGANIZATION PERIOD—TOWNSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS—COLONY OF SWEDES.

Jasper county's natural resources, its mineral wealth, its broad acres of splendid timber and the richness of its soil, early attracted the attention of capital from St. Louis and the older communities of the east and on September 20, 1868, a party of fifteen men interested in the building of a railway from St. Louis to the south and west visited Carthage with a view of interesting the citizens of Jasper county in the project.

After the matter had been explained to a number of the leading citizens a mass meeting was called to discuss the project. C. A. Cassel presided at the meeting and M. C. McGregor acted as secretary.

Speeches favoring financial aid to the road were made by R. T. Blow of the Granby Company, O. H. Picher and Norris C. Hood and a committee was appointed to discuss the matter with the county court and citizens.

#### JASPER COUNTY VOTES RAILWAY BONDS.

In the spring of 1869 the Tebo & Neosho Railway Company proposed to build from Sedalia to Fort Scott, Kansas—also to Carthage and Neosho—provided, the people of the counties through which the road was to pass would vote bonds to assist in the construction of the same. A mass meeting was called at Carthage and a committee of twenty-four appointed to secure the road for Jasper county. The *Carthage Banner* supported the proposition and in its issue of March 25th had the following editorial relative thereto.

#### WHAT THE TEBO & NEOSHO RAILWAY WOULD DO FOR JASPER COUNTY.

At the present the people of our county are paying \$60 per ton for freight from the railroad 143 miles, by wagon. A railroad, charging the highest rates, would not ask more than \$12 for the same freighting. Thus we are paying five times as much for our freights under the present rule, as we would with a railroad.

Then let us remember that a railroad is ever ready to take freights and passengers, and will not put off their delivery for an indefinite time, or *until the roads get better*, as has been the case this winter, and we find the real worth of railroad transportation much enhanced.

Now why is the Tebo and Neosho a more desirable route than the Southwest? Because it will be an opposition line to the Kansas City and Galveston road, and we have a most effectual check on exorbitant rates, to the St. Louis market, in the Pacific road and the Missouri river, both of which will be crossed by the Tebo and Neosho railroad. Thus, this line will give an outlet to St. Louis and Chicago, and have parallel freighting lines all the way as wholesome checks, while the Southwest Pacific has no opposition, and gives us an entreport to only one market. The Tebo and Neosho railroad, extended to the pineries in Arkansas, would be worth a million dollars to this county alone, since the amount saved in the price of lumber, would amount to that in ten years.

The *Banner* also printed the following April 22, 1869:

#### RAILROAD MEETING.

Pursuant to motion a Railroad Meeting was held at the Court-house in Carthage, on Tuesday evening, April 20th, Capt. Josiah Lane was chosen Chairman of the meeting and A. B. Parkell Secretary.

Col. Cloud was called upon to state the object of the meeting, which he did by stating that the meeting was called to consider the best means for carrying on the campaign preparatory to voting on the railroad question in Jasper county.

Col. Picher was called and made a few practical remarks upon the railroad interests of Jasper county and the means necessary to be employed in carrying forward the coming election.

Mr. Garrison moved that a Finance Committee, consisting of three persons, be appointed to raise funds for carrying on the railroad campaign. Chair appointed D. S. Thomas, I. N. Lamb and W. S. Tower as said Committee.

Col. Cloud moved that a committee of ten be appointed from different townships in the county, to assist in conducting the canvass. After remarks by several gentlemen Mr. Lamb moved to amend motion, increasing the number of said committee to seven in Carthage and two in each township in the county. Some remarks followed, after which a vote was taken and resulted in carrying motion as amended by Mr. Lamb.

On motion a committee consisting of Col. Cloud, Col. Picher, and M. G. McGregor, to select suitable men in the several townships to act as committee in conducting the canvass through the county, in addition to the original railroad committee of three. After consultation the nominating committee reported as follows:

Members of the committee appointed, residing in Carthage: Messrs. Caldwell, List, Phelps, Cassil, Davis, Ray, J. W. Young.

Marion Township.—I. E. Koontz and S. B. Ormsby.

Mineral Township.—J. M. Young and John Elliott.

Preston Township.—N. M. Smith and Williamson Price.

Jasper Township.—W. O. Callison and J. C. Cox.

North Fork Township.—Abraham Fleet and Geo. Chapman.

McDonald Township.—E. M. Burch and J. C. Willoughby.

Sarcozie Township.—Harrison Hubbard and Amos Hoag.

Jackson Township.—Lazarus Spence and David F. Moss.

Centre Creek Township.—Jonathan Rusk and Richard S. Stuckey.

A vote was taken on the railroad question which resulted in a unanimous vote of all present in favor of the railroad.

Moved that these minutes be published in the *BANNER*.

On motion the meeting adjourned to meet again on Friday evening next at the Courthouse.

A. B. PARKELL, Sec'y.



## WHY RAILROAD BONDS WERE DESTROYED

A special election was held on May 18, 1869, which voted \$250,000 to the road, providing the line was completed to Carthage by July 4, 1872.

In August, 1871, the road withdrew its proposition to build to Jasper county because the county would not deliver the bonds in aid of construction before the road was built. The bonds were destroyed, and thus Jasper county was saved the trouble and litigation which vexed the citizens of St. Clair and other counties who delivered the bonds prior to the building of the road.

## REOPENING OF THE MINES

In 1867 the Granby Lead and Zinc Company, realizing the richness of the mines at Minersville and along Center Creek valley, acquired the title to a large tract of land near the old French and Livingston mines on Center creek and began the development of the ground on a large scale. Colonel J. Morris Young was sent out as the superintendent of the company and soon a red-hot mining camp was thriving on the north bank of peaceful Center creek. Colonel Young was, of course, the leading spirit among the miners. Chas. W. Elliott and R. M. Stults, the veteran merchants of Oronogo, were among the live-wires of the camp. A large quantity of lead was mined and a smelter erected.

## HOW THE NAME WAS CHANGED TO ORONOGO

In 1869 a postoffice was established at Minersville and Charles W. Elliott appointed postmaster. It was now discovered that there was a town in Christian county called Minersville and as it was necessary to give the place another name, the postoffice was called Center Creek. The name Minersville, however, still clung to the camp and letters were frequently addressed to Minersville, Center Creek postoffice, and were almost always sent to the Minersville, Christian county. In order to avoid this confusion the postoffice department asked Mr. Elliott to select a new name for the postoffice and a public meeting was called at the Granby office to discuss the subject and agree upon a suitable name.

A number of names were proposed—among them Leadville, Galena and Mineral Point—it being the universal desire to have a name that in a way indicated the business of the town. After a considerable discussion without agreement, some one suggested that they name the place after some great historic person and drop the idea of associating the town with the mining industry. Thereupon a man in the back of the room (who, by the way, had imbibed quite freely of the grape that makes joyful) arose and said "Boys, by —, its Ore or no go." This was a happy thought and Colonel Young who was well educated, and spoke fluently several languages, offered this compromise: Oro was the Spanish word for ore and to drop the or from this sentence would make a euphonious word, meaning Ore-or-no-go. So the name was agreed to and the town of Minersville became Oronogo.

## THE FIRST JASPER COUNTY FAIR

During the summer of 1869 the matter of holding a county fair was discussed and the most enterprising citizens of the county decided that an enterprise of this kind would not only advertise the county and its many natural resources, but would bring the citizens together and make them better acquainted. After several meetings were held to talk over the time and place it was decided to organize a Fair Association at once and hold the first fair during the fall of 1869.

The Association was formed by twenty-five of the leading citizens and the following gentlemen were elected to the first board: I. N. Lamb, president; W. S. Tower, A. J. Balsney and M. J. Skinner, vice presidents; E. P. Searl, secretary; W. P. Davis, N. P. Smith, George Wolf, G. A. Cassell, H. S. Hanks, William Hays, N. C. Hood and F. M. Daniels.

The first fair was held October 26, 27 and 28, 1869, on a twenty-acre tract of ground south of the city and was, taking into consideration the shortness of time in organizing and advertising, a splendid success. Agricultural and stock displays of all kinds were had and a goodly sum distributed in prizes.

The fair was well attended and served the purpose for which it was organized. Nearly every one went away feeling in a happy frame of mind and feeling a little prouder of his grand county after having seen her splendid displays of farm products and other natural resources. The fair was attended by quite a number of people from out of the county, and no doubt did much to impress the visitors with the richness of Jasper county's soil and her prospects for future greatness.

## CHURCHES DURING REORGANIZATION PERIOD

In the fall of 1865 the Rev. L. M. Vernon, D. D., presiding elder of the Springfield District M. E. Church North, entered Jasper county for the purpose of reorganizing the work of that church. In 1866 Rev. J. C. Willoughby was called to the Carthage field and at once reorganized the Carthage church. He assisted in the reorganization of the old charges that had flourished before the war, as well as in the organization of new churches. In 1868 the Carthage district was organized, at which time the Methodist denomination had eighteen churches in the county and 270 members.

On March 11, 1868, Rev. D. H. Budlong was sent to the Carthage field and so faithfully did he work that the sum of ten thousand dollars was raised to build a church home. The Sunday school of the Methodist church was organized in 1866 with S. Cowgill as superintendent and was the commencement of the work of that great denomination after the war.

The Methodist church organized at Medoc received substantial financial aid from Dr. Donohoe and its history dates from 1868, when H. H. Asbaugh took charge of the work and organized the society. Rev. S. F. Haughawout succeeded to the pastorate in 1869.

The second church to be established after the war, the Presbyterian, was organized at Carthage, on August 4, 1867, with a membership of

eleven. Rev. John W. Pinkerton was the pastor in charge and was a man of fine Christian character. He labored in Carthage for five years, doing a splendid work for the Master and building up a church that to this day is a power in the community.

As noted in our church article of the pioneer days, the Baptist represented the first denomination to build a house of worship in the county, the Peace church of 1847.

The Carthage Baptist church was first organized in 1845, and at the breaking out of the war had grown to be quite a power, but like the other religious bodies was obliged to suspend services during the "unpleasantness." The first Baptist church of Carthage was reorganized in September, 1867, with fifteen members. Rev. Cable Blood was the pastor and L. B. Ruffin was the first clerk of the church. Rev. Blood was a New Englander, a man of high literary attainments, and during his three years' pastorate made a number of additions to the church.

On April 20, 1869, the Right Rev. C. F. Robertson, D. D., bishop of the dioceses of Missouri, held services in the Presbyterian Hall and there organized the Grace Episcopal church. In May the church purchased a building lot and began the erection of a chapel. On December 22nd Rev. D. Estaing Jennings, of New York, took charge of the work and preached his first sermon. M. Drake, A. H. Caffee, W. S. Tower and W. M. S. Judd were the leading men in the promoting of the organization.

The Christian church was organized at Carthage in 1866, but the society was without a home until the 'eighties, meeting around at various homes and being without a regular pastor. The early records of the church are lost and we will take up the history of that church in 1882, at which time the church took steps to build a house of worship.

#### TOWNSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS

During 1868 Sunday school associations were organized in most of the townships and conventions held for the betterment of the Sunday schools. The first of the township meetings were held at Carthage, July 21, 1869, and brought together not only the Sunday school workers of Marion township but many from the surrounding country. Rev. G. W. Quinn, of St. Louis, state agent of the Sunday School Association was the organizer of the several township conventions.

In 1869 the several township organizations were merged into the Jasper County Association and a monster convention held at Carthage, during the month of May. Twenty-two Sunday schools were enrolled. A. P. Searl was elected president of the convention and was for several years reelected to the position, being a most enthusiastic Sunday school worker.

#### COLONY OF SWEDES

In October, 1869, a colony of Swedes came to Jasper county direct from the old country, and bought land for farms. The colonists were a high class of immigrants, most of them being educated and bringing with

them a good bank account. They have made most excellent citizens and some of them today are among the most influential people of the county.

#### SHEEP RAISING

Sheep raising was one of the features of the farm during the 'sixties and nearly every farmer had a small flock which netted him a nice sum as a side line. One of the successful wool-growers was W. G. Skinner near Georgia City.



## CHAPTER X

### CARTHAGE HISTORY

CARTHAGE AS A CITY—PUBLIC SCHOOLS ORGANIZED—COUNTY TEACHERS BETTER THAN SCHOOLHOUSES—"THE CARTHAGE PATRIOT"—COUNTY CELEBRATES JULY 4, 1869, AT CARTHAGE—THE MASONIC FRATERNITY—THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS.

On March 12, 1868, a petition was presented to the county court by M. C. McGregor on behalf of two hundred and six tax-paying citizens of



CARTHAGE WHEN INCORPORATED AS A CITY

Carthage praying that body to incorporate that place as a town, and accordingly a decree was granted erecting the town of Carthage into a municipality, the original limits of the town being as follows: Commencing at the northwest corner of Parson & Case's addition to said town of Carthage, running thence north 800 feet; thence east 6,110 feet; thence north 2,120 feet, to the place of beginning, with the same narrations as the original surveys, being 2,920 feet north and south by 6,110 feet east and west.

#### CARTHAGE AS A CITY

David S. Thomas, Thomas E. Gray, Norris C. Hood, D. H. Budlong and Robert A. Cameron were appointed trustees and held until the first

election in April, 1869, when the following were chosen: Alfred Caldwell, G. A. Cassell, Thomas E. Gray, William T. Cloud and Abraham Ray. The vote was very close, Mr. Ray and A. H. Caffee being tied for fifth place. Lots were drawn and Mr. Ray drew the longest straw and was declared elected. The board was organized by the election of Abraham Ray as president of the board and H. A. Terpenning, clerk.

At the first meeting of the board six ordinances were passed.

No. 1 prescribed the time and place of council meetings.

No. 2 prescribed the kinds and classes of sidewalks.

No. 3 made it an offense to block the sidewalk with wares and merchandise.

No. 4 established a pound.

No. 5 prevented stock from running at large.

No. 6 made it an offense to be intoxicated on the streets.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS ORGANIZED

The School District of Carthage was organized in April, 1868, by the election of the following board of education: J. W. Young, president; D. S. Thomas, treasurer and M. C. McGregor, secretary.

School was opened in a double building on the south side of the public square with the following teachers: Principal, W. J. Sieber; assistant principal, A. P. French—and these gentlemen began the foundation of the splendid public school system of the county seat.

In 1867 the schools of the county were reorganized by the election of J. C. Willoughby as county school commissioner and the several school districts that had been organized before the war again opened. The sale of the school lands was carried on and by 1868 most of them had been disposed of. On January 1, 1868, the County School fund resulting from the sale of the swamp lands had grown to almost \$150,000, which was loaned out at ten per cent interest netting the county \$15,000 annually, beside the taxes raised for school purposes.

#### COUNTY TEACHERS BETTER THAN SCHOOLHOUSES

This sum readily enabled the county districts to pay fairly good wages, and some of the best talent of that day entered the ranks of the pedagogues, so that the county although poorly supplied with schoolhouses (the school fund cannot be touched for building purposes) had a fairly good school system.

From the close of the war to December, 1869, not quite five years, the school system had grown from 23 districts to 79, and the teaching force consisted of 104, the greater portion of whom were men. The average salary paid was \$42.75 per month. The number of children of school age was 4,898 and seventy-three per cent of these were enrolled in the schools.

For the most part the schoolhouses which were built during the 'sixties were one-room frame houses and the furnishings scant for the reason mentioned above.

W. J. Sieber, principal of the Carthage school, was elected county

superintendent in 1869 and during his term of office the Jasper County Teachers' Institute was organized which, by its convention, greatly increased the worth of the teaching force of the county.

#### THE "CARTHAGE PATRIOT"

In March, 1869, the *Carthage Patriot* was established by S. D. Carpenter. The *Patriot* was a Democratic paper and locally opposed the issuance of railway bonds. It also boldly called attention to any delinquency on the part of the county officers and built up a large circulation, being generally taken by both Democrats and Liberal Republicans on account of its advocacy of reform.

#### COUNTY CELEBRATES JULY 4, 1869, AT CARTHAGE

The ninety-third anniversary of the birth of American Independence was duly observed at Carthage on July 4, 1869, by a celebration which was largely attended by the people of the county.

The following were the officers of the day: President, R. A. Cameron; vice president, Patrick Murphy; chaplain, Rev. C. J. Blood, and marshal of the day, J. C. Gaston.

At 10 o'clock in the morning a parade was formed, headed by the Carthage band and participated in by the veterans of the War of 1812 and of the Civil war, and the citizens of Carthage and Jasper county. The procession marched to La Force's grove where the oration of the day was delivered, after which every one partook of the good dinner and ate the lunch which had been brought by the thoughtful housewives, sweethearts and sisters. The afternoon was spent in games and social amusements.

Patriotic celebrations always fill men's hearts with noble thoughts and prompt them to do great and noble deeds, and the day was closed with a meeting of the leading citizens of Carthage to talk over plans to organize a volunteer fire department.

#### THE MASONIC FRATERNITY

The first lodge to organize in the county after the war was Carthage Lodge No. 197, A. F. and A. M., which was instituted March 27, 1867, with the following officers in the chairs (under dispensation): Griffith Robinson, Master; Joseph C. Gaston, S. W.; O. D. Stinson, J. W.; Norris C. Hood, Treasurer; Josiah Lane, Secretary; D. K. Hood, S. D.; John S. Reynolds, J. D.; A. M. Drake, Tyler.

The Masonic lodge differs from most other fraternal societies in this, that the custom of the olden time are carried out and the order has no written rituals, but the work is "passed from mouth to ear" and can only be learned by the strictest attention.

For this reason before a lodge is chartered the principal officers of the lodge must commit the work thoroughly and be able to exemplify the several degrees.

The Master and Wardens-elect therefore repaired to the nearest lodge, Greenfield in Dade county, and, after being instructed for two days by the brethren at that place, were placed in the chairs and went through the forms and ceremonies so well that the lodge gave them a recommendation, and at the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Missouri on October 19th the charter was formally granted. The membership at the date of the granting of the charter was seventeen. J. C. Gaston succeeded Griffith Robertson as Master in 1868. During the same year he was appointed D. D. G. M. for this Masonic district and during his incumbency of that important office instituting a great number of lodges—among which were those at Medoc, Fidelity and Avilla, Peter K. Peard succeeded Mr. Gaston as Master in 1869, and served the craft so faithfully that he was reelected for three successive terms.

#### THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

The second great society to be established in the country was the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which was organized at Carthage, May 20, 1868. Lyman J. Burch was the first Noble Grand.

Odd Fellowship was also established at Avilla, the same year that Avilla Lodge No. 188 was instituted. Among the charter members were, H. G. McGown, Joel T. Belk, John W. Belk, S. W. Damon, Benjamin Binney, John Tarter, Jacob Stricker, K. H. Brackman, N. H. Roberts, B. F. Skillen, A. C. Houser, E. Eader, J. A. Spencer, Calvin Westerman and Henry Homer. H. J. McGown was the first Noble Grand.



Decade  
of the  
Seventies

# CENSUS OF 1870

Jackson Township .....	1,238
Jasper Township .....	758
McDonald Township .....	2,035
Marion Township (including Carthage) .....	3,964
Mineral Township .....	1,195
Preston Township .....	1,174
Sarcoxie Township .....	1,983
North Fork Township .....	868
Center Creek Township .....	765
Georgia Township .....	948
<hr/>	
Total population .....	14,928

## CHAPTER XI

### POLITICS AND RAILROADS

CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS REENFRANCHISED (1870)—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION ADOPTED (1872)—COUNTY REDISTRICTED AND TOWNSHIP LINES CHANGED—JUDICIAL DISTRICTS—THE CAMPAIGN OF 1874—THE NEW CONSTITUTION—CAMPAIGN OF 1876—THE REPUBLICAN RALLY—DEMOCRATIC BARBECUE AND PROCESSION—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION ABOLISHED—THE CAMPAIGN OF 1878—RAILROAD MATTERS.

The decade which was ushered in with the year 1870 was an important one for Jasper county. It saw the county doubled in population and quadrupled in wealth. It witnessed the reenfranchisement of the citizen who had followed the cause of the Confederacy and saw a reunited people in fact, as well as in name. It saw the founding of three great cities—Joplin, Webb City and Cartersville—and with their growth, marked the beginning of a new epoch, the coming into prominence of the mining industry. It saw the building of three railroads into the county and noted the passing of the old stage-coach. In short, the 'seventies were years of great activity in Jasper county and present a rich variety of historic experiences, and following the general plan mapped out in our introductory chapter, we will group together the important events of this decade in the following order.

The county at large  
Political happenings  
Railroads  
Educational matters  
The Grangers; farms and farming  
Miscellaneous events  
Carthage  
Joplin  
Webb City and Cartersville  
Other towns

#### CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS REENFRANCHISED (1870)

The important political issue of the campaign of 1870 was the reenfranchisement of the soldiers of the Confederacy and the restoration to them of all the civil rights of citizenship, and on this question the Republican party divided.

At the State Republican convention held at Jefferson City, in August

1870, a warm debate was had relative to the proposition. The Radicals advocated postponing the restoration of citizenship and restoring the rights gradually, while the Liberals desired the immediate restoration of all rights and the extension of the right hand of fellowship to their countrymen who had fought for what they thought was right.

The vote on the question of placing in the Republican platform a plank pledging the support of the party to the amendment to the constitution, which was to be voted on in November, was lost by a vote of 349 to 342; whereupon the Liberals withdrew from the convention and nominated B. Gratz Brown for governor and a full state ticket, on the platform of restoring the ballot to the Confederates. The Radicals nominated Governor McClurg. The Democrats made no nomination for governor, but supported Brown.

In Jasper county, both Republicans and Democrats nominated full tickets and the campaign was bitterly fought. The Radical Republicans, under the leadership of Judge O. H. Picher as county chairman, were victorious, but many of them voted for the amendment to reenfranchise the men who had followed the "bonnie blue flag." The vote in Jasper county at this election was as follows: McClurg, Regular Republican, 1,006; Brown, Liberal Republican, 716.

The constitutional amendment to abolish the test oath, however, carried in the county and in the state by a tremendous majority. Brown was elected governor by 41,000 majority and the amendment carried by 111,000, only 16,000 votes being cast against the proposition.

#### TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION ADOPTED (1872)

In 1872 the Republican party in the county was again victorious, the vote on president being as follows: Grant, Republican, 2,092; Horace Greeley, Democrat, 1,333. At this election Hon. W. H. Phelps came into great prominence, being one of the delegates to the national Democratic convention.

At this election the county voted on the proposition to adopt township organization and the same was adopted by a majority of 1,892 the vote on the question being, for 2,340, against 448.

Under the provisions of the law the several townships could, if they so desired, choose a name and became quasi-corporations, could sue and be sued and, in short, transact through the township officers the local business. The township officers under this law were: Supervisor, clerk, collector, assessor, constable, justice of the peace. The supervisor was the executive officer of the township and O. K.'d all bills and supervised all public improvements.

The first township to elect officers was Marion, and the following persons were chosen to transact the township business: M. G. McGregor (later circuit judge), supervisor; W. I. Bullis, assistant supervisor; E. P. Searl, clerk; S. B. Ormsby, collector; Charles Poole, assessor; W. V. Thornsburg, constable; T. B. Tuttle and James P. Betts, justices of the peace.



In 1873 the legislature amended the township organization law so that executive function devolved upon a board of trustees, which consisted of the supervisor and the two justices. The supervisor was also ex-officio treasurer.

The same law also provided that the county court should consist of five members in place of three. The presiding judge was elected at large and the other four from judicial districts.

#### COUNTY REDISTRICTED AND TOWNSHIP LINES CHANGED

At the meeting of the county court, February 6, 1873, the county was divided into fifteen townships as follows: Jasper, Dural, Preston, Sheridan, Lincoln, McDonald, Madison, Marion, Mineral, Spring Valley, later changed to Twin Grove; Galena; Dubuque, later changed to Joplin; Jackson; Jenkins Creek, later changed to Union; and Sarcoxie. These lines are the same now as then, save that Joplin township has twice been reduced by a small territory which has been added to Galena.

#### JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

The county was districted, for the purpose of electing members of the county court, as follows: District No. 1—Sheridan, Lincoln, McDonald, Madison, Union and Sarcoxie townships.

District No. 2—Marion and Jackson townships.

District No. 3—Joplin and Galena townships.

District No. 4—Jasper, Dural, Preston, Twin Grove and Mineral townships.

A special election was held June 3, 1873, to select a new county court and resulted as follows: Presiding judge, C. Conrad; District No. 1, Wm. Rush, of McDonald township; District No. 2, M. C. McGregor, of Marion township; District No. 3, John C. Cox, Joplin township; and District No. 4, Leander Green, Jasper township.

#### THE CAMPAIGN OF 1874

The campaign of 1874 was a hot one and saw four parties contesting for honors grouped as Republicans, Democrats, Reformers and Grangers. The Grangers did not nominate a full county ticket, but had a candidate for governor, William Gentry, who was warmly supported and, while not elected, carried Jasper county. During the two years prior to this campaign there had been much excitement over the voting of railroad bonds and there were also quiet whispers relative to a graft among certain county officials which brought out the Reform party, composed of members of both old organizations "who wanted to see the books."

Full county tickets were nominated by the Republicans, Democrats and Reformers and the contest was hotly waged, resulting in a Democratic victory. The following were the successful contestants: Representative, W. H. Phelps; sheriff, U. B. Hendrickson; county clerk, George Blakeney; recorder, James A. Bolen; treasurer, John Onslott; and prosecuting attorney, Al Thomas.

The above was an exceptionally strong ticket, each man having a local strength which brought him votes. The vote on the state officers was as follows: For governor, Hardin, Democrat, 1,493; Gentry, Granger, 1,686.

#### THE NEW CONSTITUTION

At the general election of 1874 a proposition was submitted to the people and carried, calling for a convention to frame a new constitution for Missouri.

Hon. John H. Taylor, of Joplin, was elected to represent Jasper county in the constitutional convention and discharged the duties with great credit to the county. The constitution was voted on at a special election in November, 1875, and was carried by a large majority, the vote in Jasper county being, for the new constitution 629, against 525.

#### THE CAMPAIGN OF 1876

By far the most exciting political campaign of the 'seventies was the Hayes-Tilden campaign of 1876. The Democrat and Republican parties at this election were almost evenly divided and made a most vigorous campaign. At this election there appeared a new party, the Greenbackers, who advocated reforms in the currency and monetary laws; also more liberal laws in favor of the laboring classes. The party, although never victorious and living only through three presidential campaigns, contained many able men, and some of the doctrines they advocated were later engrafted into the platforms of both old parties. The Republican candidate for president was Rutherford B. Hayes of Ohio; the Democratic candidate, Samuel J. Tilden of New York; the Greenback candidate, Peter Cooper, the great philanthropist, of New York city. Colonel C. C. Allen, of Carthage, was the Republican candidate for lieutenant governor at the election. All three parties made a vigorous schoolhouse speech-making campaign and at both Joplin and Carthage great rallies were had which included torch-light processions, barbecues, etc. The two largest political gatherings in the county occurred in Joplin.

#### THE REPUBLICAN RALLY

At the Republican rally the attendance was variously estimated at from 12,000 to 15,000 people and the city was splendidly decorated for the occasion. The torch-light procession was fully two miles long and was a sight long to be remembered. The writer well remembers the occasion and feels now, as he writes, the thrill of excitement that came over him as he saw the marching clubs four abreast and some of them uniformed (the Republican marching club was called the Hayes Light Guard) coming over the east Joplin hill and down Broadway into Main street, flags and banners gayly waving, and torches burning brightly, making the sky red with their light, the city wild with excitement. Hon. P. D. Dyer was the orator of the day and spoke from a platform on Main street, and that thoroughfare was a solid mass of humanity from First to Fifth streets.

## DEMOCRATIC BARBECUE AND PROCESSION

The campaign was closed by the Democrats with an old-fashioned barbecue and torch light procession which rivaled, if not eclipsed the Republican demonstration. The Democratic rally opened in the morning at Cox Grove, north of East Joplin, where an old-fashioned barbecue and basket picnic was held. The author was a boy then and, like other urchins, right there on the ground and in the thickest of the excitement; and remembers how the fatted calf was cooked and the feeling of good cheer that came from the splendid dinners which were served by the daughters of Democracy. The writer has sometimes thought that this was a great stroke of policy, and it is often said that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, and the memory of that dinner must have clung to the banqueters for many a long day. It might be added, in parenthesis, that Joplin went Democratic at that election.

After dinner in the grove, speeches were made and a general good time was had, until evening.

The torch-light procession at night concluded the celebration and marching clubs for twenty miles round participated in the demonstration. Seven bands of music enlivened the occasion and numerous floats and banners added to the effect. The county was Republican by a small majority excepting county treasurer, Hon. John Onstott being elected to that office.

The vote on president was as follows: Hayes, 3,139; Tilden, 2,905, and Cooper, 520.

The following county ticket was elected by the majorities named: Representative, R. A. Cameron, 124; treasurer, John Onstott, 28; prosecuting attorney, Galen Spencer, 157; county judge, Josiah Lane, 125; sheriff, J. C. Beemer, 168; surveyor, Kos Elliott, 201; coroner, Dennis Coffin, 100; and public administrator, Thomas Buekbee, 188.

## TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION ABOLISHED (1877)

The legislature of 1877 repealed the township organization law. The provisions of the constitution providing for three members of the county court, called for a redistricting of the courts into judicial districts and in April, 1878, the county was divided into an eastern and a western district. Jasper, Sheridan, Lincoln, McDonald, Madison, Marion, Jackson, Union and Sarcoux were in the eastern district, and Jasper, Dural, Twin Grove, Mineral, Joplin and Galena townships were in the western district.

## THE CAMPAIGN OF 1878

In the campaign of 1878 the Greenback party made a most vigorous campaign drawing strength from both of the old parties, and, while not successful, made a formidable combatant and more than tripled its strength at the 1876 campaign. The interest centered on the choice of congressman who was elected by the Democrats. The vote in the



county on congressman was: For Waddell, Democrat, 2,285; Burton, Republican, 2,096; Richey, Greenback, 1,722.

In the county the Democratic ticket was elected, the successful candidates being: Sheriff, J. S. McBride; judges of the county court, William Byers, G. W. Scott, and Isaac Schooler; circuit clerk, W. A. Williams; recorder, J. W. Burch; treasurer, John Onstott; probate judge, W. H. Kilgore; collector, W. E. Hall; prosecuting attorney, J. W. McAntire, and representative, J. A. Pollard.

#### RAILROAD MATTERS

While the Tebo & Neosho Railroad proposition was still being discussed, a company composed of local capital was formed and proposed to build a railroad through Lawrence and Jasper counties, running east and west and traversing the rich valley of Spring river. The company was called the Spring River Valley Railroad Company. The county court, in aid of the proposition and on petition of the people, called special elections in Sarcoxie, Marion and Mineral townships to vote bonds, and \$100,000 was subscribed. The road was not built and the bonds which had been issued were burned, as already stated.

L. P. Cunningham now interested some eastern capital in a railroad proposition and organized the Memphis, Carthage and Northwestern Railroad Company, which was composed of a number of enterprising Jasper county citizens and eastern financiers.

The road first extended from Pierce City, the western terminus of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad (now the 'Frisco) to Oronogo and the several townships through which the road was to pass were again called upon to vote bonds to aid in the construction of the road. Although there was some opposition to voting bonds again, the proposition carried and \$120,000 was subscribed. Sarcoxie township voted \$40,000, Marion township \$50,000 and Mineral township \$30,000. The road was completed to Carthage July 4, 1872, and the event was celebrated with a monster demonstration which was attended by 10,000 people who had come to see "the iron horse." The next year the road was completed to Oronogo, and Jasper county now had an eastern market for its farm and mineral products.

While the road was in process of construction the company made a proposition to the city of Carthage and Marion township to locate its shops at Carthage, provided an additional \$75,000 in bonds be voted. The project was warmly supported by the Carthage Banner but met with organized opposition from many substantial citizens. A mass meeting was held February 2, 1872, and was largely attended, Jesse Thacker presiding over the meeting and W. H. Woodmansy acting as secretary. R. H. Rose, D. J. Thomas, Dr. J. A. Carter, A. B. Parkell, Peter Myers and E. J. Montague spoke against lending further aid until the road was built and in operation. The proposition failed by a small vote, but the road was completed as per contract and was a great boon to the county. After the Memphis, Carthage and Northwestern Railroad was completed to Carthage, other capital was interested and



the company was reorganized under the name of Missouri and Western Railway and was extended to Oswego, Kansas, being completed to that point in 1876.

In 1879 the Missouri and Western was sold to the 'Frisco and is now a part of that great system.

The second railroad to be built was the Joplin and Girard, which was financed principally by E. R. Moffet, John B. Sergeant, Pat Murphy, W. P. Davis, H. Brown, W. A. Bodkin and Colonel Budlong, and was built for the purpose of giving an outlet for the mineral and smelted products of the Joplin mines. The first officers of this road were Colonel Budlong, president; E. R. Moffet, vice president; W. A. Bodkin, secretary; and J. B. Sergeant, treasurer. The road was built from Joplin to Girard on the Gulf Road a distance of thirty-nine miles, work was commenced in February, 1876, and the road was completed in August, 1877. The last spike, which was appropriately made of lead, was driven August 20th amidst the cheers of the assembled multitude of people. This road was sold in 1879 to the 'Frisco Railway.

#### THE KANSAS CITY, FORT SCOTT & GULF RAILROAD

The above named popular line was built to Joplin in 1879, from Baxter Springs to Joplin, and was at first called the Joplin and Short Creek Railroad. Galena, Kansas, was at first called Short Creek. The first train ran into Joplin in October, 1879. The Kansas City and Gulf later became the Kansas City, Memphis and Gulf Railroad, and before it passed into the hands of the 'Frisco had grown to be a great system and, it might be added, a very popular one.

## CHAPTER XII

### EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

COUNTY SUPERVISION OF SCHOOL—J. W. JACOB (1871-2)—“SPELLING DOWN”—JASPER COUNTY TEACHERS’ INSTITUTE (1871)—SCHOOL EXHIBITION—U. B. WEBSTER (1872-3)—JASPER COUNTY TEACHERS’ INSTITUTE (1873)—THE SIXTH DISTRICT TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION—COUNTY SCHOOL COMMISSIONER (1875)—S. A. UNDERWOOD (1877-9)—STATE TEACHERS’ ASSOCIATION (1878)—SINGING SCHOOL—UNIFORM TEXT BOOK LAW—MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Keeping pace with the growth of the country in population, the school system grew larger and more important during the 'seventies, as noted in our last chapter. January 1, 1870, found the county with seventy-nine school districts and one hundred and four teachers. December, 1879, found a few over a hundred organized schools and one hundred and sixty teachers.

We will treat the city schools in a description of the several towns, and will, in this article, speak of the county schools and the matters pertaining to education in which the entire county had an interest, grouping together the important happenings which occurred during the administration of each of the county superintendents.

#### COUNTY SUPERVISION OF SCHOOLS

Jasper county was the first in the state to adopt county supervision and employ the entire time of a county superintendent, and the high standing of her schools attests the wisdom of this step along the line of progress.

#### J. W. JACOB (1871-2)

At the general election of 1870, J. W. Jacob was elected county superintendent. Spelling was his hobby and during the early 'seventies the old-fashioned spelling matches were renewed and came into great popularity. We present here a paper written by one of the Jasper county teachers and read before a teachers' meeting in February, 1872. It is interesting because it describes the conditions of the 'seventies and a period when the public school system was in its infancy.

## "SPELLING DOWN"

## AN OLD CUSTOM REVIVED.

"We met a sleigh-load of boys and girls the other night a few miles out of the city, on their way to a 'spelling match' in the schoolhouse of a neighboring district, and the jingling bells and the merry laughter of the young folks made us forget for a season that we had passed the forenoon of life; and we joined the happy throng in imagination, and were back again among the scenes of years ago, when cares were few and the greatest sorrow of our life was to be compelled to stay away from spelling or singing schools and know that Bill Jones would go home with our girl after the exercises of the evening were ended.

"Is there an individual living who does not at times brush the cobwebs away from his pictures of the past and revert fondly to the scenes of his youth? If so, let him be known, though we do not believe in the unmanly feeling that prompts one to look back for all his pleasures, and see only clouds and stormy weather in the future.

"But we commenced to talk of spelling schools—the old-fashioned kind, held in our own or neighboring schoolhouses. The latter, however, were looked forward to with more pleasure, as the usual monotony of the occasion was relieved by the excitement of the meeting of a foreign foe, and the fun of a ride under the buffalo robes to the field of contest.

"How 'big' we used to feel when in solemn manner the school master would step up on the rostrum, and after erasing all traces of the day's arithmetical exercises upon the blackboard that our minds might not wander from the evening's work, sing out in a well-remembered voice, a cross between a deacon's and a heavy tragedian's, our name, coupled with some member of the opposition side as the two upon whom fell the honor of choosing sides.

"And what terrible suspense intervened while the two pedagogues drew cuts to see who should have his first choice, preparatory to selecting the chosen two dozen who were to try and spell each other down.

"If the leader of the 'other side' happened to be a rival of ours in the suit for smiles from the rosy-cheeked girl who apparently had no thought for anything save the apples she was slyly eating behind the stove, the excitement was doubly great, until it was decided that *we* (just think of it!) had drawn the longest straw and were entitled to the first choice among all the bevy of young folks that were scattered around the schoolroom.

"How high we lifted our cow-hide boots as we stepped off to the corner of the room where the line of orthographical battle was to be formed! Of course, the first name called was that of our sweetheart, though (must we say it?) she was the poorest speller in the school, and her formation of words would frighten the portrait of old Noah Webster from the title-page of his first-book. She was the handsomest young girl in the whole school; her cheeks were as red as a Baldwin apple, and her curls, which had been elaborately twisted around a hot poker, were natural, and besides that she had agreed to go home from all the singing schools for a month ahead with us, and when we had a stone bruise on our heel in summer, who but she could tie a rag so tenderly around the spot! So, we repeat it, we chose her at once, and while she was tripping to her place at our side, the other leader, as if to seek revenge and pay court to Mars instead of Venus, selected for his first choice the very best scholar in school, a girl who, though homely as Barnum's 'What is it,' could go through the spelling book like lightning, and was as much at home among words of seven syllables as those of two. When the work commenced and the quota of spelling was soon filled, though we must confess that our mind became slightly confused while holding 'our girl's' hand and choosing at the same time, our side was weak, mentally, compared with that of Bill Jones.

"After order was obtained among the scholars and those who were not in the lists had brought their angry feelings under subjection, 'Old Jacket Duster,'

as we termed our teacher, would pull out a dog's-eared copy of 'Webster's Elementary,' whose fly leaves had long since ascended heavenward in the form of 'spit-balls,' and in a voice about three keys higher than his ordinary tone, proceed to 'put out' the words alternately to the two sides. The contest waxed warmer, and down went all the 'small fry' on the simple words. We were only allowed one trial and the man who hesitated was irrevocably lost, until at last only a half a dozen were left on a side. 'Our girl' had come near going down on the word 'coffee.' (She always commenced it with a K), but we had set her right in a whisper, though Bill Jones saw the 'prompting' and would have informed the teacher had he not at that moment received a stunner in the shape of 'phthisic,' which occupied his mind to the exclusion of all else, but which he would have mastered had not a wad of chewed paper struck him at that moment in the mouth, and so affected his utterance as to lead the master to think he had omitted one 'h;' and he sat down swearing, and we had the satisfaction of seeing his ears slapped with a piece of rubber for his profanity. There were now five on the other side and six on ours, when the teacher of the other school took the floor, and we saw that there was blood in his eye the moment he said 'We will now proceed to spell Bible proper names.'

"This exercise soon thinned our ranks. Four at one shot, on 'Nebuchadnezzar,' 'Our girl' let go of our hand and wilted on 'Pharoah' before we could inform her whether it commenced with F or P, and finally we keeled over on the simple word Isaac, and the champion was a small boy of ten years, who was named after the son of Abraham, and the only Bible word which he could spell was that which he had won that day.

"But the sorrows and troubles of our youthful days never lasted long, and we had soon forgotten our defeat in the happiness of having the rosy-cheeked girl to ourself in the back end of the sleigh, and with three buffalo robes that we had stolen to conceal our faces and render unintelligible the whispered words of sympathy and affection that we poured in under the 'kiss-me-quick' hood that covered her curls. Two mittens held our four hands, and the few strong peppermint drops that we had been hoarding up for this occasion were dull and tasteless compared to the condensed extract of sweetness that we daringly snatched from her lips when crossing the bridge on our way home. She said she had 'forgotten that there were so many bridges on the road,' while we—well, gentle reader, you cannot have forgotten how the old thing worked in those days before the war."

#### JASPER COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE (1871)

The third meeting of the Jasper County Teachers Institute was attended by one hundred and ten teachers, which, considering that there were but one hundred and four schools, showed an interest both among the regular teachers and the prospective ones. The institute occurred on August 14th and the following officers were elected: U. B. Webster, of Medoc, president; K. Elliott, vice president; Laura Ralston, secretary; J. W. Jacobs, treasurer.

The feature of this meeting was the appointment of Miss M. E. Chaddle, a noted linguist, as the critic for the meeting, and at the close of each session she made a report of the inaccuracies of speech, grammatical errors, mispronounced words, etc. It is needless to say that after the first session everyone was on the qui vive and guarded his speech most carefully. During Mr. Jacobs' administration the school exhibition also came into popularity. The following clipping from the *Carthage Banner*, March 12, 1872, describes one of many such, and shows, too, how the people of the early day overcame difficulties.



## JASPER SCHOOL EXHIBITION

By urgent request we attended the school exhibition at Jasper school house, eight miles southeast of here, on last Tuesday night. We were well paid for doing so. The Jasperites are natural exhibitionists, as the following report will show.

We arrived on the ground about sundown, and found the large exhibition tent well filled, even at that early hour. Every road centering to the school house was lined with young and old, afoot, ahorse or in wagons. The grove by the school house was packed full of teams. People had come together from a radius of eight miles to see and hear the exhibition. The school house was used as a dressing room. The performers entered the stage through the windows. The stage, with the side curtains, covered the entire side of the schoolhouse, and was about 15x30 feet in size. This gave the actors plenty of elbow room. A large tent was put up, extending out sixty or seventy feet from the school house, capable of seating five hundred persons. The seats were railroad ties, new and hard. There were at least six hundred persons present.

The exercises commenced about 8 o'clock, and continued until nearly 3 o'clock, in the morning. Everything passed off smoothly. We have never seen better acting done in country places, than at Jasper, last Tuesday evening. All did well—a few did extra well. Much credit is due Mr. H. C. Warner, the teacher, for the excellent discipline and control, all evinced, from the least to the greatest. He was well assisted by Mrs. Smith, who seems to be perfectly at home in the bewilderments of an exhibition of that magnitude. The only unpleasant feature about the performance, was the cold weather. There being no fire in the tent many near the canvas were uncomfortably cold; those near the center fared better. We did not stay till the close, but we learn that the pieces grew better and better to the close. Had it been pleasant weather it would have been a real enjoyable occasion.

## U. B. WEBSTER (1872-3)

U. B. Webster succeeded to the superintendency in 1872 and introduced into the schools the plan of publishing reports giving an account of his works, visitation and his observation in the schools. These reports had the effect of causing each teacher to be on the alert and make the best showing possible, so that the printed report of the school would reflect credit on the district. During 1872 Mr. Webster made seventy-four visitations, and, for the purpose of giving the reader an idea of the conditions then, we print here the notes made at the schools, taking one or more from each township.

Charter Oak school house, seven miles northeast of Carthage; John Bryant, teacher; seventy pupils on the register, and an average attendance of thirty four; public examination of the school every three months; three cases of corporal punishment during the term, all slight. The school had twelve visitors to day. One of them said he "was much pleased with the attention and general deportment of the school." Mr. Zinn said "the school is well regulated;" Mr. Brummint, was "well pleased with the order and attendance;" Mr. Walker said "the dismissal was the best and most orderly he ever saw;" Judge Koontz said "the system of teaching is good and the order excellent." Charter Oak has a good school, and all seem pleased. The house is not equal to the requirements of the district, and must soon give place to a better one.

Silver Creek school house, three and a half miles northwest of Medoc, Miss Alice Pickering, teacher. Wages \$30. New district. Eighteen pupils on register, sixteen in attendance. House comfortable, but no seats or blackboard. School.

doing well. Good drill in reading, and first-rate order; no whispering. A small school but a pretty good one.

School house on Blackberry Creek, three miles west of Medoc, Miss Nora Grayson, teacher. Wages \$30. Eighteen pupils on register, fourteen in attendance. Good little school house and everything in order. Good desks and teacher's desk, bell and black board. School doing well. Miss Grayson and Miss Pickering are both new teachers, and in their schools show good system.

Jasper school house; H. C. Warner, teacher; wages \$45; sixty pupils on the register, averaging an attendance of forty; house seated with pine desks and furnished with maps, tablets, charts and globe; school doing well. Warner is one of the "Old Reliables," "one of the working ones," and means business all the time. The directors and patrons are interested and harmonious, good feeling prevails, and, of course, the school is a success.

Reed's school house, in sub-district No. 7, town 28, range 30; Miss Carrie Ditto, teacher; wages, \$33 1-3; small, new house, and first term of school in this district. The people of this district have long needed a school. Thirty-two pupils on the register; term three and a-half months. Miss Ditto is doing well, I think. I heard in this school the most perfect recitation in Geography that I have heard this winter, it was perfect—even to the exact locating of St. Petersburg, Russia.

Stony Point (Boyd's) school house, sub-district No. 4, town 27, range 30; W. T. Burkholder, teacher; wages \$35; about sixty pupils on register; room clean, pupils quiet and order good; house seated with pine desks along the sides of the room and facing each other; good blackboard and plenty of chalk; good average school.

Garden Dell school house, six miles northwest of Carthage; Miss Mattie Higgins, teacher; good little house; well seated; teacher's table, maps and blackboard; forty-five pupils on register; average attendance thirty-eight; class exercises good, except third reader, in that recitation a lack of attention; particular pains in spelling and pronouncing; some good essays in topical geography by the Misses Frise; small pupils print spelling lessons; Miss H. labors earnestly; two visits from directors.

Alba; Miss Emma Frise, teacher; wages \$33 1-3; seventy pupils on register; average fifty-eight; house too small and out of repair. This is Miss Emma's first term; and she has had a hard time, but she is one of the *plucky* ones that will "dare and do;" she has fought it out on "that line," and her *first* school is a success; but it has required spirit, and muscle too. The Alba school is crowded; the house is too small, and there is too much work for one teacher to do. The patrons of the school should look to the interest of the children in this matter; a good set of pupils.

Quaker Church school; Jeremiah Hubbard, teacher; wages \$40; No. of pupils seventy; average attendance forty-eight; good school; Mr. H. keeps good order, has good recitations; and is beloved by his pupils; his district will lose a good teacher when it lets him go; he is faithful and earnest and has the welfare of his pupils at heart. The district has no school house at present, but have \$500 towards a new brick house, and have the site and the plan of their house, and are intending to build the coming season; if they carry out the design, the house will be a credit to their district.

Stroup school house, small log house. In "The name of God" what *do* men want to build a log school house for, in this day and age of the world? Like the old maid who prayed for a husband; when the owl said "who, who" she answered "any body good Lord." This house don't fill the bill; teacher A. J. Hubbard; wages \$35; No. of pupils twenty; average fourteen. This is a small school; cannot say much about it; I like what I saw of it pretty well.

Perry school house, two miles north of Carthage. T. J. Dudman, teacher, wages \$40. Forty-six pupils on register, thirty-nine in attendance. Messrs. Conard, Thomas, and Armsby present. House well seated and furnished with black board, maps, globe and tablets. Pupils bright, intelligent and studious. Teacher *in earnest*, school a success. It is *one* of the schools of the county that fills the bill. Some of the reasons: 1st. It was started right when *first* organized. 2d. The *patrons* are alive to their own interests. 3d. Directors do their duty. 4th. Teacher and pupils understand each other. School considerably advanced and A No. 1. Good singing.

Preston school, Whitmore, teacher. Wages, \$40. Sixty-five pupils on register, thirty-five in attendance, average forty-two. This school still retains its old name of being a hard school to manage. It is, and requires a teacher of experience and a thorough disciplinarian. Directors should employ some of the old "Wheel horses" of the county, who would enforce discipline. Whitmore is a good teacher but this is his first term. He is doing well, considering all things. This house has blackboard enough, for every available space is covered with good wall black board. House well seated with cherry desks. Directors present. A good school, but lacks that great essential, discipline. An \$85 bell crowns the building. With good discipline this school would be all right. Good singing.

Cedar Bluffs, two miles west of Preston. Henry Hubbard, teacher. Wages \$35. Forty-six pupils on register, average attendance twenty-seven. Small box house, cold and uncomfortable; good seats and maps, but insufficient black board. School just about an average. Cannot be much improved without a new house, which is much needed.

Linnland school house, four miles north and east of Preston. This is an awkward name, and not appropriate, but the school is all right, and a perfect success, for all are satisfied—parents, pupils and superintendent. T. A. Remington, teacher. Wages \$40. Fifty-six on register, average thirty-seven. Directors present. One of the good schools of the county. Please keep it so. Good singing.

Coon Creek, Union Valley school; two miles west of Midway, sub-district number 1; township 30; range 30; John Weed, teacher; wages \$40; here I found a good school, good house, good desks, good blackboard, plenty of chalk and directors not afraid to have it used. Appearance of pupils good, clean, sprightly and intelligent; recitations good. Weed is a good teacher, his pupils love him and the district appreciates his labors. The patrons of this school deserve credit for their mutual effort to sustain a good school.

Summit school house; H. C. Parrich, teacher, wages \$35; five months term; good house, large and comfortable, seated with pine desks; sixty-two pupils. This is sub-district No. 2, township 30; range 30. A very good class of pupils and pretty well drilled; school a success, all seem interested in the support of a good school and as far as I could see labor to that end. I think tardiness a bad feature of this school; also non attendance but on the whole the school is doing very well.

Range Line school house. This is the smallest school and the smallest house in the county I guess. There is strong talk of disorganizing the district as it appears impossible to sustain a school; but by disorganizing some must suffer, as they will then be too far from either Summit or Hackney. Miss Eva White is the teacher here at \$25; fourteen pupils on register.

During November and December of 1873, Mr. Webster had a severe sick spell and during his illness John Bryant acted as superintendent.



## JASPER COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE (1873)

The meeting of the Jasper County Teachers' Institute at Joplin, October 1, 2 and 3, 1873, was a most successful gathering and drew out a large attendance, nearly every teacher in the county being present. The people of Joplin did the host splendidly and threw open their homes for the entertainment of the teachers. The meetings were held in the Methodist church.

The following were the officers of the assembly: S. A. Underwood, president; W. H. Lister, W. J. Seiber, G. L. Jackson, vice presidents; Mrs. M. A. McCallum, secretary; executive committee—J. M. Wims, S. P. Ormsby and J. M. Stephenson.

In the above list of officers appear the names of S. A. Underwood and J. M. Stephenson, both still in the teaching profession and prominent educators of Kansas City.

## ORGANIZATION OF SIXTH DISTRICT TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

On September 3, 1873, the teachers of the Sixth Congressional district, comprising practically all of the counties of southwest Missouri, met in Carthage and organized the Sixth District Teachers' Association and the following teachers were elected as officers: President, Hon. John Monteith; vice presidents, A. H. Parker (Newton county), A. J. Wray (Barton county), and U. B. Webster (Jasper county); secretary, George H. Smeltzer.

This convention made the following recommendations: I. To teach Civil Government and Good Citizenship in the public schools. II. A compulsory educational law. III. A Southwestern Missouri Teachers' Normal.

S. D. McPherson succeeded Mr. Webster as county superintendent and during his administration nothing out of the ordinary occurred, save that a few new school districts were organized.

## COUNTY SCHOOL COMMISSIONER (1875)

The constitution of 1875 contained in it a number of wise provisions relative to public schools and after its adoption many new school laws were passed. The time of electing the superintendent was changed from the fall election to the annual meeting in April and thus the election was in a way, taken out of politics. The name was also changed from Superintendent to County School Commissioner.

## S. A. UNDERWOOD (1877-83)

S. A. Underwood of the East Joplin schools (now principal of the Westport, Kansas City High School) was elected first county commissioner and reelected in 1879 and 1881, being the first county superintendent to be reelected. During Mr. Underwood's term of office, the county was honored by a meeting of the State Teachers' Association, in June, 1878, and was also noted for the several enthusiastic meetings of the Jasper County Teachers' Association.



Mr. Underwood urged a uniform set of text books in the county, endeavored to establish a course of study to be pursued in the several county schools and in many ways raised the standing of popular education in the rural districts. He also pursued the policy of publishing a report of his visits. We present here a score of his printed reports, with the view of showing the progress and changed conditions which has been brought about since the early 'seventies. The reports presented here are extracted from the 1878 reports and show a marked contrast from the published reports of 1872.



S. A. UNDERWOOD (1875)

#### JASPER TOWNSHIP

Galesburg District—Ed Mitchell, Frank Sponable and Ed McFerron, directors; John H. Booton, teacher. Term began September 23d, and continues six months. Building and furniture second class. Seating capacity 46. District enumeration 43, enrollment over fifteen years of age 7, total 40, present 32. Here we find order, the movements of the pupils to and from recitation regulated, and pupils who recite do not depend upon the teacher to perform that duty for them. Too many teachers hold their pupils up and lead them through the recitation. Remember that what the pupil does not recite independently is not recited. Mr. Booton is bringing the Galesburg school up to a level with other leading schools of the county. It pays to employ a good teacher even if to do so requires the payment of a reasonable sum for his services. Mr. Mitchell, one of the directors visited with me.

Silver Creek District—Three miles north of Medoc; John Luster, M. K. Jones and Wm. Row, directors; J. C. Grason, teacher. Term of six months began October 21st. District enumeration 31, enrollment 14, present 13. Building and furniture second-class. Seating capacity 18. This is Mr. Grason's fourth term in Jasper county and he is teaching a good school. On the day of the recent election a prairie fire broke out in the neighborhood which destroyed a large amount of fencing and would have burned the school house but for the hard work of Mr. Grason and the entire force of his school.

Medoc District—R. G. Sloan, J. S. Enos and Ira Grayson, directors; Wm. J. Sailor, teacher. Term began October 7th, and continues five months. District enumeration 97, enrollment over fifteen years of age 6, total 71, present 58. Building and furniture second-class. Seating capacity 56. This is Mr. Sailor's sixth term in Jasper county schools and the Medoc school is doing thorough work under his management. Not a single case of whispering was noticed during any visit. General deportment good. The examination passed by the different classes did credit both to pupils and teacher. Dr. McPheters, and Mr. Welty, an ex-teacher, visited with me.

Amity District—One and one-half miles east of Joplin; Henry Moore, L. B. Osborn and S. A. Hopkins, directors; L. B. Osborn, teacher. Term of six months began September 20th. District enumeration 50, enrollment over fifteen years of age 3, total 41, present 31. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 28. In addition to school house and site the district property includes a good set of outline maps, a Webster's Unabridged, a nine-inch globe, a teacher's desk and nineteen Victor folding desks.

#### GALENA TOWNSHIP

Dixon District—Three miles north of Joplin; A. Dixon, Henry Martin and Hiram Snapp, directors; James R. Thomas, teacher. Term of seven months began September 2d. District enumeration 99, enrollment over fifteen years of age 12, total 65, present 42. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 54. Value of district property \$600. This is Mr. Thomas' first term and he is doing good work for a beginner. This is one of the leading districts of the western portion of the county and always has "number one" schools.

#### JACKSON TOWNSHIP

High Hill District—Four miles southwest of Carthage; H. Robinson, F. J. Hazelwood and John Hornback, directors; G. B. Lowery, teacher. Term began October 7th, and continues three months. District enumeration 103, enrollment over fifteen years of age 5, total 39, present 32. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 40. Mr. Lowery is teaching his first term and as far as I am informed is giving his patrons satisfaction. High Hill is one of the largest and oldest districts in the county, and although it has a school house much larger than the average, yet it can only seat less than half the pupils enumerated in the district.

Lynnland District—John Crandall, George Hille and John M. Peterson, directors; Harrison Hunt, teacher. Term of five months began October 21st. District enumeration 67, enrollment over fifteen years of age 8, total 49, present 28. Building second-class, furniture third-class. Seating capacity 42. Mr. Hunt has taught in the county at intervals for several years. Lynnland School has a number of non-resident pupils and is making reasonable advancement under the charge of Mr. Hunt.

#### MINERAL TOWNSHIP

Alba School—Henry Hubbard, James M. Haworth and Wm. John, directors; J. S. Rees, teacher. Term of five months began October 7th. District enumeration 70, enrollment over fifteen years of age 9, total 45, present 30. Building and furniture second-class. Seating capacity 30. The Alba school has been hard to govern and the pupils have been allowed to cut and otherwise injure the furniture. Under the management of Mr. Rees, who is now teaching his seventh term in the county, the deportment is rapidly improving and the recitations are becoming more thorough. The directors have placed in some new furniture, improved the interior of the school house and propose to do their part toward having a good school.

Blood District—O. H. Carpenter, M. A. Estey and E. Kerr, directors; O. W. Rose, teacher. Term began November 4th and continues four months. District enumeration 69, enrollment over fifteen years of age 5, total 32, present 29.

Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 38. The school house is located near Salem Church nine miles north of Carthage and is one of the best in Preston township. A good pine fence with cedar posts and a neat coal house are the improvements made during the summer. Deportment and recitations are good and show that Mr. Rose is master of the situation. Mr. Estey visited with me.

King District—Isaac N. Johnson, James Pitts and Orville Frost, directors; Miss Alice Peterson, teacher. Term began November 4th and continues four months. District enumeration 72, enrollment over fifteen years of age 8, total 31, present 23. School house third-class, furniture first-class. Seating capacity 24. This is Miss Peterson's third term and her school compares favorably in deportment and recitations with any in the township. The reading recitation witnessed was excellent. Mr. Pitts, member of school board, visited with me.

Preston District—E. Pinney and I. Landerbaugh, directors; Miss Della M. Greene, teacher. District enumeration 55, enrollment over fifteen years of age 3, total 39, present 32. Building and furniture have been first-class but are now greatly in need of repairs. Seating capacity 58. The school is without a daily register. The vacancy in the board should be filled without delay as the law requires. This is Miss Greene's fourth consecutive term in this district. The good understanding between teacher and pupils and the thoroughness of the recitations show the advantages arising from retaining a good teacher.

North Fork District—J. W. Underwood, Joseph Cather and Isaac Herring, directors; J. W. Spaid, teacher. Term began September 16th and continues five months. District enumeration 50, enrollment over fifteen years of age 15, total 43, present 28. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 48. This is Mr. Spaid's second term in Jasper county; he has thus far secured employment in our best districts and receives the highest wages paid in Preston township. North Fork directors have "a number one" school.

Spring Hill District—J. J. Hall, D. N. Wood and Rees Williams, directors; W. H. Lester, teacher. Term began October 28th, and continues four months. District enumeration 83, enrollment 83, enrollment over fifteen years of age 15, total 64, present 58. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 64. This is the most spacious and best furnished school house owned by any rural district of the county and the Spring Hill people are justly proud of it. Mr. Lester has the school thoroughly systemized. Directors Hall and Wood visited with me and expressed their intention to strike the Eclectic primer, fifth reader and number three geography from the list of studies pursued in the school. This I consider a wise action and think other districts would do well to follow the example.

Hazen District—Alfred Kellum, Dr. Hazen and Virgil Irwin, directors; Mrs. S. A. Phelps, teacher. Term of four months began November 18th. District enumeration 33, enrollment over fifteen years of age 14, total 42, present 41. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 31. This is the only district in the township that owns an Unabridged Dictionary. The school is also supplied with charts and outline maps, and is making good progress under the charge of Mrs. Phelps, who is now teaching her fifth term in the county. George L. Leaming one of Jasper county's leading teachers, visited with me.

Magoffin District—W. F. Stemmons, Geo. McCormick and Peter Schell, directors; Hiram Harry, teacher. Term of five months began October 7th. District enumeration 45, enrollment over 15 years of age 5, total 39. Building second-class and furniture third-class. The directors will during the term supply the school with patent desks sufficient to accommodate 40 pupils. Willingness and promptness were noticeable merits in the classes examined and the recitations and deportment were good. District Clerk Simmons visited with me.

#### SHERIDAN TOWNSHIP

Deer Creek District—Jesse Lauderbaugh, Daniel Bishop and James Bro-



bert, directors; J. T. Wolfe, teacher. Term of four months began November 4th. District enumeration 50, enrollment over fifteen years of age 5, total 31, present 25. Building and furniture third-class. Seating capacity 28. Class in mental arithmetic organized and doing thorough work. Our schools need more mental work, more analysis in arithmetic and less prompting from the teacher. Mr Wolfe has taught twelve terms in Bates county, this State, and we are glad to give him a place in our Jasper county schools.

#### MADISON TOWNSHIP

Schooler District—John N. Schooler, A. Elting and Paul Girtton, directors; G. T. Rhodes, teacher. Term began November 4th and continues four months. District enumeration 59, enrollment over fifteen years of age 13, total 50, present 40. Building and furniture third-class. Seating capacity 30. Mr. Rhodes is an Ohio teacher of long standing and is now teaching his second term in Jasper county. Here are found order about the desks, a teacher who conducts a recitation but does not recite, and pupils who are required to think and express thought. The teacher may direct but the pupil must do the work. That which the pupil does not recite is not recited. Let us think of this at each recitation.

Twin Grove District—Peter Samson, Allen Bobb and Reuben Kelly, directors; Miss Lizzie Rice, teacher. District enumeration 55, enrollment over fifteen years of age 4, total 43, present 30. Term of four months began October 28th. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 56. Too many geography classes. We have no use for Eclectic No. 3. The Eclectic primary and No. 2, contain much more geography than we will ever succeed in having our pupils remember, and the use of the third book is unnecessary, and only shortens other recitations. Miss Rice has a model class in mental arithmetic. She is teaching her third term in this district, which is the extent of her experience. The school is doing well. The log house of a year ago has given place to an excellent and commodious school building of which the citizens of the district are justly proud. The people of Twin Grove believe in progress and have done the handsome thing in erecting and furnishing the building now occupied by the school.

#### JASPER TOWNSHIP

Georgia City District—Jacob Myers, J. M. Woolomes and Thomas Enos, directors; Miss Sue Gray, teacher. Term of five months began September 20th. District enumeration 103, enrollment over fifteen years of age 8, total 50, present 20. Building second-class and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 50. Miss Gray has taught eleven terms in the county and is now teaching her third term in this district. An exercise in phonetic spelling witnessed showed that the pupils had been patiently and thoroughly drilled in orthoepy which, though essential and interesting, is overlooked in some of our schools. The district is the owner of a large and well bound Bible, the only one, I believe, owned by any district of the county. Georgia City pays her teachers liberally and invariably has good schools.

Center District—Ira Gray, Amos Atherton and J. A. Wilson, directors; Miss Josie Culpepper, teacher. Term began October 14th and continues five months. District enumeration 103, enrollment over fifteen years of age 8, total 50, present 25. Building and furniture first-class. Seating capacity 34. School is supplied with out-line maps and charts. Miss Culpepper succeeds unusually well in teaching mental arithmetic. A class of young ladies in civil government acquitted itself creditably. Good order and thoroughness in all the work gone over characterizes this school.

Union Valley District—W. H. Rhoads, George F. Bowers and Isaac Hendricks, directors; A. R. Haughawout, teacher. Term of four months began Oct. 28th. District enumeration 72, enrollment over fifteen years of age, total 46.



present 43. Building and furniture second-class. Seating capacity 44. The policy of the directors has been to pay the best wages and employ the best teachers, and they have thereby given the district a school that in point of advancement and thoroughness, ranks with the first district schools of the county. Mr. Haughwout is teaching his fifth term, and is doing good work, especially with the "little ones" (who are too often neglected) in primary reading and mental arithmetic. Any teacher not in possession of good methods in primary work would do well to witness the exercises of this school.

#### GALENA TOWNSHIP

Mt. Pleasant District—Six miles northeast of Joplin: S. B. Holden, T. W. Witten and C. J. Parker, directors; J. C. Weddel, teacher. Term of eight months began May 13th. District enumeration 76, enrollment over fifteen years of age 3, total 50, present 8. Building and furniture third-class. Seating capacity 24. Mr. Weddel is a teacher of experience, having taught eighteen terms. The examination passed by the pupils present was satisfactory and showed that they were thorough in the work gone over. The daily register showed a large and regular attendance until late severe weather.

#### TWIN GROVE TOWNSHIP

Smithfield District—David Hopkins, W. M. Temple and John R. Walters, directors, T. A. Stockslager, teacher. Term of six months began September 2d. District enumeration 104, enrollment over fifteen years of age 10, total 67, present 31. Building second-class and furniture second and third-class. Seating capacity 32. This school contains wide-awake pupils, earnestly at work and respectful to their teacher who in turn treated them with merited kindness.

These twenty reports the author selected from his one hundred printed reports and they represent the conditions of the county at that date. It will be noted that in a few of the districts the old house and furniture of the ante-bellum days was still in use, also that in most of these, laboring against such adverse circumstances, the schools were a success, showing that, after all, it is the teachers and the pupils that made a good school.

#### STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION (1878)

The Missouri State Teachers' Association held its seventeenth session in Jasper county, honoring both Carthage and Joplin with a session, the visit to Joplin being largely of a sight-seeing tour and for the purpose of seeing the mines and twenty lead furnaces that were in full blast.

The feature of this meeting was the organization of the teachers of the several portions of the state into local associations, the old Sixth District Association changing its name to the Southwestern Missouri Teachers' Association.

The following were the officers of the Southwestern Missouri Teachers' Association at this organization meeting: S. A. Underwood, president; the county commissioner of each of the twenty-five counties embraced in the association, vice presidents; J. C. Mason, secretary; Paul Roulet, treasurer.

At the close of the meeting the citizens of Carthage tendered a reception to the visiting teachers, using the new opera house for the occasion. The reception was a brilliant affair.

## SINGING SCHOOL

During the early days it was quite common for the music-loving people of a county or village school to organize singing schools and they were very popular and largely attended. The largest singing school ever organized in a country school in Jasper county was at Preston during the winter of 1878-9. E. P. Searl of Carthage was secured as instructor and here one hundred singers gathered and sang away the cares of the day. This singing school became quite famous and contained some of the best singers of the county.

## UNIFORM TEXT BOOK LAW

In 1879 S. D. Carpenter, through the columns of his paper, the Patriot, advocated a uniform state text-book law, and we refer here with great pride to the fact that the agitation which finally resulted in the passing by the state legislature of a uniform text-book law began in Jasper county.

## MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

W. R. McLane, a negro, was granted a teacher's certificate August 23, 1877; was the first colored person in the county to successfully pass the examination, and was therefore the first colored teacher in the county.

## CHAPTER XIII

### COUNTY SOCIETIES

OBJECTS OF THE GRANGE—GREAT HARVEST HOME CELEBRATION—POMOLOGICAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY—MCDONALD TOWNSHIP FARMERS' CLUB—JASPER COUNTY SHEEP—JASPER COUNTY IMMIGRATION SOCIETY—THE SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SOCIETY—COUNTY JAIL—JASPER COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION—COLONEL YOUNG AND THE COUNTY OF '65.

During the early 'seventies there came into great popularity in Jasper county a farmers' organization, the Patrons of Husbandry, but popularly known as "the Grangers."

#### OBJECTS OF THE GRANGE

- I. To develop a better and higher manhood among its members.
- II. To cultivate a love of home.
- III. To preserve inviolate the laws and customs of the American nation.
- IV. To reduce the cost of living and discourage extravagance in local, state and national governments.
- V. To promote harmony and encourage patriotism.
- VI. To facilitate better and cheaper transportation.
- VII. To encourage cooperation and to bring together, in a stronger bond of union, the farmers of the land.

In 1872 seventeen granges were organized and by 1874 the order had spread into almost every school district.

#### GREAT HARVEST HOME CELEBRATION

On October 1, 1873, the Grangers had a great demonstration at Carthage, which brought together the farmers from both Jasper and Newton counties. The speakers of the day were Norman J. Coleman, editor of the *Rural World*, and T. R. Allen, grand master of the Missouri State Grange. We clip the following from the *Carthage Banner*, as it will give a vivid idea of the magnitude of the gathering and the importance of the event in farm circles.

#### THE FARMERS' FEAST.

A PROCESSION TWO MILES LONG—HUNDREDS OF GRANGERS TURN OUT WITH THEIR FAMILIES—TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-THREE WAGONS IN LINE—THEY MARCH THROUGH THE CITY WITH FLAGS AND BANNERS—SPEECHES BY T. R. ALLEN, MASTER STATE GRANGE, AND COL. N. J. COLMAN.

Yesterday was a gala day for the farmers of Jasper county. Although cloudy in the morning, by eight o'clock the sky was clear and by nine the crowds began to gather in the city from all quarters. Farmers with their wives and children came to enjoy the feast that had long been preparing for them. Everybody turned out—mechanics, artisans, laborers, merchants, lawyers, printers, bankers and speculators, land sharks, bloated bond-holders, and persons bloated who are not bond-holders, office-holders, office seekers and aspiring politicians, fresh from the barber shops slicked up with hay seed hair dressing, all eager to swell the throng, and anxious to be counted a "friend if not a lover."

On the arrival of the train, a committee consisting of Judge Conard, W. I. Bullis, and J. A. Bodenhammer met the speakers with carriages and the band and escorted them to the City Hotel where ample arrangements had been made for their accommodation. By ten o'clock the city was full of spectators, and the Grangers waiting on the principal roads a short distance out for the signal of march which was soon given. Dashing Cutler, the railroad's greatest enemy, mounted on his fiery steed, led the van; following was the band wagon carrying the Carthage Silver Cornet band, discoursing excellent music. Grange after Grange followed, some with the flag of our country gallantly streaming, and others with banners with the name and number of the Grange and mottoes significant and insignificant.

First came the "Marion Grange, No. 4, P. of H. Motto—"Education, Retrenchment and Reform."

"Preston Grange, No. 23." "Good bye 3 per cent." "Mr. Bonds—No Post Dating in ours."

"No more Sand Stone Steals." "The Ring is Broken." "1874—The farmers will run the machine." "How are you politicians?"

"Monopolies render Competition Impossible."

"We Feed the World."

"We foot the bills."

"Farmer's Home Grange, No. 53, P. of H."—Ceres. "We will vote for no more robbers if we know it."

On the People's Press banner was inscribed the words: "Live or Die, Sink or Swim, Survive or perish, We will Support the Farmer's Movement."

"White Hall Grange, No. 356." "Down with Monopolies." "Justice to all."

Judge Hornback's wagon carried a banner on one side of which was inscribed in large letters: "Pay Back the Back Pay," and on the other, "We demand a full Overhauling of our County Records."

"Jasper Grange, No. 149." "Justice to all men."

"Union Grange, No. 43." "Farmer's protect your Rights."

"Sarcoxie Grange, No. 252." "Excelsior." Another belonging to the same grange inscribed with "Let us Plough under the foul weeds of Corruption."

"Spring River Grange." "United We Stand, Divided We Fall."

"Pay back the Back Steal." "Farmers at your post."

"Prairie Dale Grange, No. 181." "United We Stand, Divided We Fall."

"Lincoln Grange, No. 31." "Union is Strength."

"Avilla Grange."

"Equity before the law. Richland Grange. Live and let live." On the other side were the words: "For our country's welfare; For the enjoyment of our rights; For the elevation of agriculture; We cooperate against rings and monopolies."

"Midway Grange, No. 24, P. of H." "Eureka." "Friendship, Truth and Charity."

Mr. William Collins of Preston, acted as Grand Marshal, and Ellis Serjean, James Spence, John Hornback, P. L. Cutler and Joshua Shafer as Assistant Marshals, who conducted them through the principal streets of the city. It was a grand sight to look at, and fully as pleasant to the participants for the weather was pleasant and the streets free from dust. After the parade the throng pro-



ceeded to the public park where a stand had been erected and seats provided for the multitude.

About 12 o'clock, Mr. T. R. Allen, of Allenton, St. Louis county, Master of the State Grange, commenced his address.

His speech was confined principally to the objects and working of the order of Patrons of Husbandry. His work is organization. He wanted "it distinctly understood that we have no antagonism with any legitimate calling. Our war is with corruption and monopoly. We must first organize and by carrying out the principles of the organization we have monopoly by the throat." He said, "there is a wrong somewhere" and it is the farmers' fault. "We must be educated." "Banking corporations and all other organizations are endeavoring to crush us out." "Farmers are the mere serfs of mankind." "This organization is co-extensive with the Nation." The farmers are equal to all others in number, and thus are powerful. There are too many people engaged in business. The number must be reduced. Our action will not only do this in many lines, but will strengthen those that remain."—"Our motto is live and let live." He said objections were made by some to admitting ladies but he thought it was the best feature of the order, and inquired if anybody knew anything to fail that the ladies took hold of. Others object to paying \$5 initiation and 10 cents monthly dues. He explained that grangers save \$25 a piece on reapers and largely on plows and other implements in proportion. He claimed that the best features of the organization are its social effects; and emphatically stated on his honor as a truthful man and a christian of forty years in the church, that "this grange organization has done more for the brotherhood of man than the christian religion has in 1,800 years." Mr. Allen concluded by explaining that the principal objects to be attained, are to educate the farmers that they may be better able to do their duty as citizens, and reform the abuses that now exist. That they may be able to do their own thinking and not follow leaders. Said farmers have been led too much that they must raise their own speakers, so as not to be obliged to call on lawyers and politicians to do the speaking. He also explained how a new system of crop reports can be gotten up for the whole country on a cheap plan, and one that will be reliable and practicable for all.

In 1874 the Jasper County Grange put under way a proposition to build an implement factory in Jasper county and the farmers proposed to subscribe \$100,000 in stock for the enterprise.

Mayor Regan, of Carthage, offered to donate five acres of land for a building site, but the cost of farm implements after this move coming down, the plan was abandoned. The Grange continued to be popular during the 'seventies and did much good in the way of bringing the farmers together in a fraternal way. It was a great social factor among the husbandmen and useful in many other ways.

#### POMOLOGICAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

On August 24, 1872, the first fruit growers of the county organized the above named society, having for its object the promotion of the science of pomology and the better raising of small fruit.

During the organization meeting Peter Myers placed on the secretary's table a Crawford peach, measuring nine and three fourths inches in circumference and weighing seven and one half ounces. The peach was a product of his orchard and was one of many such.

At the annual meeting of the society in 1875 Lucius Amsden, a farmer and fruit grower residing six miles north of Carthage, exhibited a peach which he called the June Amsden, a variety which was grafted

by him and is a native of Jasper county. The June Amsden was said to be the earliest peach grown in the Southwestern Missouri climate.

#### MCDONALD TOWNSHIP FARMERS' CLUB

One of the most popular and useful local organizations of the early 'seventies was the McDonald Township Farmers' Club, which was organized January 20, 1871, and held meetings for a number of years. This club was organized before the Grange had come into popularity and its meetings were held weekly. The first officers of the club were: William H. Rusk, president; A. H. Ingersoll, secretary.

The club was non-political and confined its work to the discussion of topics which would be of help in bettering the farming interests. Interesting papers and discussions were had on stock and poultry raising, dairy products, the cultivation and care of fruits, the best and cheapest way to build a fence, etc.

#### JASPER COUNTY SHEEP

At the Dade County fair in October, 1877, the Jasper county sheep belonging to William McGuier took the first prize, winning him a nice sum. The sheep were of the Cotswold breed.

#### THE JASPER COUNTY IMMIGRATION SOCIETY

On February 25, 1872, a number of patriotic citizens met at Carthage and formed the Jasper County Immigration Society, having for its objects the disbursement of literature and information concerning the county and its resources. More than a hundred men joined the society and paid an entrance fee of five dollars, together with an annual assessment with which to carry on the business of the association. Its first officers were: J. W. Young, president; W. L. Tower, vice president; D. L. Thomas, treasurer; E. P. Searl, recording secretary; Capt. T. B. Tuttle, and H. C. Henney corresponding secretaries.

The organization accomplished much good and did a great work in advertising the county.

#### THE SOUTHWESTERN MEDICAL SOCIETY

The Southwestern Medical Society, composed of doctors from Greene, Newton, Lawrence, Barton, Dade and Jasper counties, met at Carthage, April 15, 1875. Dr. J. A. Carter read an interesting paper giving the data collected by United States pension experts comparing the death rate of Southwestern Missouri with other localities, the conclusion being that this section of the state was then the healthiest portion of the United States, its death rate being far less than any other portion of our great domain.

#### COUNTY JAIL

The county jail was built in 1872. It was originally intended to accommodate twenty prisoners, having eight cells besides corridors, sheriff's

office, etc. At this writing the jail is much over crowded, having over one hundred prisoners and although all county offices, save the jailer's quarters, have been moved to the elegant court house and the old offices fitted up as cells, it is necessary for the prisoners to take turns at sleeping, two sets occupying the beds during the day.

#### JASPER COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION

On May 5, 1879, the first annual reunion of the Jasper County Old Settlers' Association was held in the City Park at Carthage. At an early hour that morning people from the country commenced pouring into town and by noon there was a very large crowd. At ten o'clock Monroe's cornet band gathered the crowd to the park, where the day was to be spent. The roll-of-membership book was on the grounds and up to noon one hundred and fifty persons had registered their names as members of the organization. The people assembled in the park numbered about four hundred. The assemblage was called to order by Judge Hornback, president of the association. Col. J. M. Young, of Oronogo, delivered the address of the occasion which occupied over an hour. After this dinner was announced. The multitude was not long in assembling around the long tables laden with all the luxuries of the season. After dinner an old settlers' experience meeting was held in which a large number of the pioneers made speeches relating interesting incidents of early life in Jasper county.

#### COL. YOUNG AND THE COUNTY OF '65

The following are the closing paragraphs of Colonel Young's most interesting address and it cannot help but be of interest to both old and new settlers, because of its vivid description of the early events of the reorganization period.

The organizers of this Association were forced to consider facts—results. From 1865 to 1870 they found society formed from chaos, from a wilderness a commonwealth, and on the wreck of civilization a sovereignty already assured the peer and rival of any in the state. Youth is silvered with age where time has been annihilated by accomplishments and generations encompassed with events; here age had lost her prestige and experiences mark the line of time. Settlers prior to 1870 may well be called old settlers who experienced those results. In 1865 traveling by team, camping out, we crossed the Osage river at Osceola. On our way down the divides southward, we followed the dim traces of former roads and when all trace was gone were guided by course alone. Deer were constantly in sight grazing like common kine. We shot them and wolves from our wagon seat. In our camp at the ford on Nork Fork of Spring river we were startled from supper by a herd of deer rushing past in apparent sportive wantonness and from the bank they bounded on the solid ice below, across which they slid in no very graceful shape till striking the opposite bank, up which they sprang and were soon lost in the bottoms beyond.

It was on a December morning that we reached the site of ancient Carthage. The rain of the night before had frozen and each pendant bough and blade of grass sparkled and flashed in the sunlight. Nature was draped in bridal array awaiting and wooing civilization and development. The scene was brilliant and impressive. We found here Mr. Rader, not "like Marius amid the ruins,"

but safely housed with his store of goods in a log cabin some twelve by fourteen feet. **He was**

"Monarch of all he surveyed  
His right there was none to dispute;  
From the prairies all round thro' the groves  
He was lord of the fowl and the brute."

For in his cabin and own proper person he represented the total wealth, population and improvements of Carthage as we saw it at that time—except perhaps an old roof still standing supported on bare poles and situated somewhere in the rear of where the St. Charles Hotel now is. Dr. Bolen was living in a farm house out south and where Mr. Lamb since lived for a time.

The county seat was at Cave Springs (a brick church or school house) on the eastern line of the county. Mail matter was delivered for that place from the post office at Sarcoxie some three miles distant.

Historic Sarcoxie, celebrated for her military Rains, and as the once commercial emporium of the Ozark slopes whence was distributed intelligence and "store goods," still maintained her prestige. Here communication was had with civilization and the outer world by a weekly hack via Springfield and thence with the railroads at Rolla or Sedalia. Here was also the only running mill we saw, and the relics of three or four houses in one of which was quite a stock of goods.

On our way from Carthage to the county seat we received our first Missouri welcome. Messrs. E. M. and Lyman J. Burch received us with open house and hands. Here we obtained the assuring intelligence that **there were at that time** located in Jasper county as many as twenty-five or thirty men, and that should we desire to locate here they thought we could safely do so, provided, of course, we used necessary precautions. At Cave Springs we were hospitably entertained by Mr. Bulgin, the then county clerk. We there saw all the valuable Records of Jasper county carefully preserved in a safe, the inside measure of which was twelve by eighteen inches, which safe I afterwards purchased and valued at ten dollars.

After dinner the "experience meeting" was held. John Prigmore, R. J. Dale, C. W. King, D. K. Hood and W. F. Cloud made short speeches narrating their early experiences in the county. These little talks were full of interest and we only regret that we are unable to give them to our readers in full. The music by a special choir was excellent; among the songs sung were "The Light of Home" and "On the Mountain Life is Free." It was four o'clock before the exercises were over and the crowd dismissed to gather again at some date to be named hereafter this fall. On the whole the reunion was a grand success and we predict that the meeting next fall will be a still grander one.



## CHAPTER XIV

### MISCELLANEOUS EVENTS

#### A SURPRISED METROPOLITAN—THE FLOOD OF 1872—THE GRASSHOPPERS —JASPER COUNTY RING HUNT—A REMARKABLE JURY.

In 1877 the *Globe-Democrat* sent a special correspondent to Jasper county to write up the mines and miners and had expected to find a wild and woolly sort of civilization. On finding a community not only noted for its thrift and energy, but for its high state of morals, he wrote a most flattering description of the county which we produce here in part.

#### A SURPRISED METROPOLITAN

“Carthage is, for a fact,” says the surprised St. Louis man, “the most beautiful city in the West, having an enterprising population noted for taste and neatness in every kind of improvement. The residences are after modern architecture, surrounded by shrubbery of every description. The streets are clean; no stench of filth is permitted to remain an hour upon any of the thoroughfares. Five or six handsome churches all built by the charity of the people, who have given every evidence of their liberality. The inhabitants are church-going people. Seven or eight hundred children attend the different Sabbath schools each Sabbath.

“You will agree with me when I say no better evidence is desired to prove the character of the people.

“Carthage is becoming quite a manufacturing city in several departments, and other manufactories will doubtless be established here at no distant period. Railroad facilities are good. The Missouri and Western Railroad is now completed from Pierce City to Oswego, Kas., making timely connections with the M. K. & T., at Oswego, and the St. Louis and San Francisco at Pierce City, Mo. Great credit is due the worthy Superintendent, Mr. Rombauer, for the courteous manner in which he treats every one with whom he has business and the manner in which he conducts the railroad.

“Joplin, the great mineral wonder of the world, is situated in Jasper county, fourteen miles west of Carthage, having a population of 14,000 and over 200 business houses, and possessing a wonderful trade.

“Several wholesale houses have opened and supply the trade of the towns and villages that now surround it. It has been proved that Joplin possessed an inexhaustible amount of mineral, and that brings money

Then so long as the mines are worked, so long will Joplin advance.

"In 1870 only a few huts in the vicinity of the present site of the city. In seven years she has a population of nearly 14,000 inhabitants. Joplin has had a bad name abroad, and, in behalf of her merits, let me say that I never saw a more law-abiding town anywhere, nor a better set of officials. She enforces a Sabbath ordinance, and her churches are crowded every Sabbath, morning and evening. Also the Temperance Club has a membership of over 300. The mineral land owners offer good inducements to good miners and a good miner will invariably succeed at Joplin.

"We almost neglected to say that Joplin has erected gas works and she looks at night much like a city in fact, and they are beginning to agitate the question of water-works and street cars. Doubtless within the next two or three years she will have both.

"The wheat crop in this locality is short—not over half a crop. The oats and corn particularly the latter, are quite good. This far corn never looked better than now.

"The 'hoppers are gone to the satisfaction of every one.

"Under the management of Prof. Underwood, the present Superintendent, the schools of Jasper county are already assuming a change for the better. Jasper county takes great interest in her schools.

"Every district in the county is supplied with a good commodious schoolhouse."

#### THE FLOOD OF 1872

On May 28, 1872, there occurred a most severe rain and as a result Spring river, Center creek and Turkey creek came out of their banks and flooded the lands which were adjacent. Spring river, at Carthage, was a mile wide.

The following account, taken from the *Banner* will give the reader a good idea of the extent of the damage.

#### GREAT FLOOD

UNPRECEDENTED RISE IN SPRING RIVER—IMMENSE DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY—  
THRILLING SCENES AND INCIDENTS—HOUSES, TREES, LOGS, CATTLE, HOGS,  
AFLOAT—MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN DANGER OF DROWNING—REPORTED  
LOSS OF LIFE.

Not within the recollection of man has Spring river cut up such a caper as it did last Monday, in the broad light of mid-day—swell from a quiet stream, not over ninety feet wide, and only about half bank full, to a raging torrent a mile in width, inside of one and a half hours' time. And but once before was the water higher, which was in 1844, when the river was some four feet higher than on last Monday.

Sunday night had been a very stormy one—not so much rain in this section but an unusual amount of lightning, as elsewhere detailed. The rain here had not been sufficient to raise the river half a foot. Monday forenoon was a quiet one—cloudy but no rain. About noon the skies became clear. No one suspected the impending deluge. Shortly after noon the roar of waters was heard up the river. Those who were on the bluffs northeast of town, could see the breast

of water, half a mile wide, and from four to six feet high, rolling down the bottom, sweeping everything before it. It was a grand sight, and but for the destruction that it was occasioning to fences, crops, and live stock, could have been enjoyed by any one. When it struck a fence there was a general muss, and the next moment the fence would be no more. In a half hour's time the whole bottom was submerged, and the water was backing up the branches that lead to the river.

By one o'clock crowds began to flock to the bluffs and hills, and edge of the water north of town, to see the sight. Men, women, and children were there by the hundreds, and the crowd kept up all afternoon. Many drove out in carriages. Nearly the entire population of Carthage was out during the afternoon. The waters commenced falling about three o'clock, and what had taken but two hours to raise, was forty-eight hours in going down.

At two o'clock we visited the bluff upon which the Woolen Mill is located. The mills and banks were swarming with an excited populace of all ages. Every one expressed astonishment at the sudden and unaccountable rise of the river. The water was over the arch from which the big spring issues. The gentle, murmuring, lovely Spring River, in two hours' time had been transformed into a roaring, mighty river, a mile in width and thirty feet deep. Rails, boards, cord wood, debris of all kinds were floating down stream, while occasionally a resolute porker could be seen headed for the shore. Hundreds of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs were overwhelmed in the floods and perished. Many persons, at work in the bottoms, had narrow escapes from being drowned. Several miles below, a number of men were obliged to climb into the tree tops to escape drowning, and were treed for nearly twenty-four hours. The railroad hands encamped on the bottom north of town, were so surprised by the suddenness of the rise of water, that they saved nothing of their camp equipage, and were glad to escape, hurriedly with nothing in their hands to impede their progress.

No lives were lost in this vicinity, for a wonder, though many were the narrow escapes that were made. How the settlers of Spring River above and below this point fared, we have not yet learned, but we know that the loss of horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, and fences, let alone crops—wheat and corn damaged—must be immense. We have heard it estimated at \$200,000, in the county. The following are only a few of the losses in this vicinity: McDaniel lost 80 head of hogs. W. F. Steinmiz lost 100 cords of wood at his brickyard, worth \$400; and the fence around 28 acres of ground, a total loss of about \$500. Lamb lost a good fence, all swept away, and a field of wheat plastered over with mud. Myers & Son lost 80 cords of wood at their woollen mill. The improvements on the Fair Ground are all swept away, and the north trestle work on the lower bridge. The upper bridge is all safe and crossable. The flood did not reach Galesburg, 14 miles west of here, until the evening, and the loss of property was very heavy. The water raised to the second story of the flouring mill at that point, and as the first story contained a great deal of wheat and manufactured flour, the loss is very heavy. The bridge at Georgia City is all safe.

The above is but an outline of this most remarkable freshet. The question naturally occurs—What caused the sudden flood? It was at first supposed in this vicinity that McDaniel's mill dam had broke, and that the flood would soon go down, but that notion was soon abandoned. The next supposition was that there must have been a water spout up the river somewhere, but we have not yet received any intelligence to that effect. The most probable account is that a sudden and long-continued shower among the hills of Lawrence county, on Sunday night, occasioned the swift raising of the water. At any rate the flood of May 27, 1872, will go down to posterity as one of the epochs of Spring River on a high old spree.

Since writing the foregoing we have learned of the drowning of a man, woman, and child at Oregon, 18 miles east of here, but no particulars, except that the sad news is not a canard.



## AMUSING INCIDENTS

Notwithstanding the seriousness of the immense loss of property by the sudden rise of Spring river last Monday, there were many occurrences that look very amusing after it is all over with. Among the hundred funny incidents we can mention but a few. A Swede had just gone over on the island, north of town to set out cabbage plants, when the flood of water burst all around him, and in a few moments he was compelled to climb a tree for safety. He stuck to his cabbage plants, and roosted in the tree top until ten o'clock the next day.

After the upper bridge was approachable, a pig was discovered on it, safe and sound, and glad see the folks that visited it in its Robinson Crusoe condition. It had sought the bridge at the outburst of the flood.

We noticed a wash line, reaching from one of the houses to a tree close by, under the brow of the hill, north of town, at the height of the flood, with some newly washed clothing dangling in the muddy water—not a very flattering prospect for a good clean dry.

The railroad hands camping in tents in the bottom were so suddenly routed out, that they could not save anything, but had to flee empty handed to escape the flood. One of the ladies was so overwhelmed with the suddenness of the deluge, that she never thought of fleeing, and a strong armed man picked her up and carried her to a place of safety through water four feet deep.

Dr. Jas. F. Wilson was approaching the upper bridge, on the other side of the river, just as the flood burst upon the bottom. He saw it was impossible to reach the bridge, and so he galloped down to the lower bridge two miles below, but really three the way he had to go and reached it just as the flood got there. Five minutes after he crossed the approaches to the bridge were past fording. He noticed a large charred ten foot saw log in the water at the upper bridge which passed under the lower bridge as he crossed over it.

After the bottom was covered with water, a man across the river by the name of Widdom rigged up a skiff and went cruising through the waters for victims. He rescued quite a number of folks, among the rest an old man, woman, and baby, who had sought safety in a bush. The swift current carried the crew three-quarters of a mile down the stream before they landed on terra firma. In one case he found two men in a treetop, with their horses hitched below in water nearly deep enough to drown them. The men preferred to stay with their team.

Ed. St. John lost his stylish little pony by the freshet. It was in Bett's pasture field on the island in Spring River bottom.

## THE GRASSHOPPERS

During the summer of 1874 Jasper county, in common with other western-border counties, was visited with a pest in the form of grasshoppers. Jasper county was not devastated so much, however, as the eastern portion of Kansas, but the crops were greatly damaged. The younger generation and people who did not live in the west during the early 'seventies cannot appreciate the extent of the damage done by the grasshoppers and the stories told by the farmers seem almost fabulous, although absolutely true.

## JASPER COUNTY RING HUNT

It will be remembered that the county lost fully two-thirds of its population during the war and as a result of the desolation and waste, the wild game which had almost been exterminated before the unpleasantness returned to its old haunts and during the latter 'sixties, Jasper



county was again the hunter's paradise, deer, wild turkey and the like being plentiful and sometimes bigger animals came prowling around, but as the population increased, these were either exterminated or driven out by the onward march of civilization. During this period large hunting parties were quite popular, and occasionally a number of hunters would drive the game toward some point where the killing would take place. One of the most successful of these ring hunts took place Saturday, January 20, 1872, under the direction of U. B. Hendrickson of Oronogo, assisted by W. B. Crossman, John B. Rood, William C. Brooks, A. C. Grisham, J. W. Helman and William Ranken, as the committee on arrangements. The center of the ring was designated as a point one mile east of Pilot Grove and the hunting limits included the territory from the Newton county line north to the section line running through Oronogo, and from the section line two miles west of Carthage to a west line which would now run through the eastern portion of Carthage Junction. The hunt commenced at 1 o'clock A. M. and a hundred hunters participated in the sport. Two o'clock was designated as the hour to be in the center and the hunters approached from the four sides, each under the leadership of a captain who selected the marksmen from his party who at the appointed time were to bring down the game, and if perchance a deer or any other animal (and of course, there were many wild beasts killed only for their hides and skin) made its escape through the line, the file closest guarding the outposts brought them down. The day was long remembered by the sportsmen of the county.

#### A REMARKABLE JURY

At the January term of the court of common pleas, held at Carthage in 1878, there occurred a most extraordinary proceeding, the trial of a case by a jury of lawyers. The trial was in the case of *Wheeler vs. Johnson* and was in the nature of a suit to enforce the collection of rent on a farm.

The plaintiff attorney, S. G. Williams, asked that the case be tried by a jury of lawyers, as their knowledge of the law and court rulings would enable them to more quickly grasp the legal phase of the case and apply the facts accordingly. The defendant's attorney, R. A. Cameron, accepted the challenge and a jury of lawyers was impanelled, among them W. H. Phelps and M. G. McGregor.

The case was ably presented on both sides and the plaintiff won, the jury granting Wheeler one hundred dollar damages in the way of rent.

## CHAPTER XV

### CARTHAGE IN THE 'SEVENTIES

ORGANIZED AS A CITY—FIRST OFFICIAL DOCUMENT—CITY OFFICERS, 1873-9—ORGANIZATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT—INDUSTRIES OF THE 'SEVENTIES—THE CARTHAGE GAS WORKS—NEWSPAPERS—BANKS AND BANKING—THE KARR HOTEL—THE CARTHAGE OPERA HOUSE—BOARD OF TRADE—RAILROAD RATES—BUILDING OF THE FIRST SCHOOL—HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY—FIRST PUPILS—THE CARTHAGE LIBRARY

The election for town trustees of Carthage for 1871 passed off quietly and resulted in the election of the following gentlemen: H. F. Beebe, Peter Hill, W. F. Stermontz, A. Cahn and D. G. Chase. The board was organized with the election of H. T. Beebe as president and George A. Case, clerk.

#### CARTHAGE ORGANIZED AS A CITY

During the winters of 1872-3 the question of organizing a municipality was discussed. It was apparent that a better government could be had through a city government and, accordingly, at a special election held February 25, 1873, it was decided by a vote of 4 to 1 to petition the legislature for a special charter. Colonel C. C. Allen, of Carthage, state senator, pushed the matter in the legislature, and on the 7th day of March the bill granting the special charter passed the general assembly and was at once signed by the governor.

At the first election the following officers were chosen: Mayor, Peter Hill; city council, D. L. Thomas, H. C. Henney, J. W. Young and T. B. Tuttle.

#### FIRST OFFICIAL DOCUMENT

The following message of the mayor is the first official document of the new government.

CARTHAGE, MO., APRIL 8, 1873.

To the Honorable City Council of the City of Carthage:

GENTLEMEN.—I congratulate you on our prosperity and growth, as evinced by our change from a village to an Incorporated City. In this our ability to still further and more rapid progress is increased.

This brings with it increased responsibilities to those who the citizens have

entrusted with the management of our Municipal affairs, so much is needed to be done in the way of public improvements, and our means so limited, that it is only by a careful and impartial course, that the best interest of all will be promoted. The greatest amount of improvements should be made that will not work a hardship to our industrial and commercial interest.

The taxation of the many, for the building up of the few, should be held in its true light, as a wrong against the people.

No revenue should be raised except for the public benefit, our expenditures should be limited to our means of paying.

It is not my purpose to point out especially the objects that will demand your attention, but it is well to bear in mind that our treasury is empty, that our present debt is between four and five thousand dollars, nearly all of which is to be paid out of our next taxes.

Knowing the energy and enterprise of our people, and our great natural advantages, I have an abiding faith in the future of the Queen City of the Southwest, which is entrusted to our government.

Yours respectfully,

PETER HILL.

The following appointments were made and the city was fully organized: Clerk, M. M. James; treasurer, Peter Myers; marshal, W. W. Thornburg; assessor, M. M. James; collector, A. B. Parkell; supervisor of streets, J. W. Hart.

Councilman T. B. Tuttle was elected president pro tem.

The new council was confronted with a great work. Carthage was at this time a city of at least five thousand people and was growing rapidly, and the council at once passed laws to regulate building, establish the grade of streets and provide better police and fire protection for the city.

#### CITY OFFICERS, 1873-9

The following is a list of the city officers of Carthage from the date of organization until December, 1879.

1873—Mayors, Peter Hill, T. Regan; aldermen, Thomas B. Tuttle, D. L. Thomas, J. W. Young, H. C. Henney; clerk, M. M. James; city treasurer, Peter Myers, marshal, W. W. Thornburg; assessor, M. M. James; collector, A. B. Parkell; street commissioner, J. W. Hart.

1874—Mayor, Timothy Regan; aldermen, J. E. Moberly, J. W. Young, E. Sherman, J. P. Betts; clerk, D. G. White; city treasurer, E. W. Harper; marshal, W. W. Thornburg; assessor, D. T. White; street commissioner, J. W. Hart.

1875.—Mayor, H. H. Harding; aldermen, F. T. Welch, William B. Myers, C. C. Allen, Ezra Huntly; city clerk, F. A. Beebe; city treasurer, A. M. Drake; marshal, M. Mix; assessor, D. G. White; street commissioner, J. W. Hart; city attorney, B. F. Garrison.

1876.—Mayors, J. W. Sennet, Josiah Lane; aldermen, William Motherspaw, J. W. Sennet, G. B. McMerrick, M. L. Reid; clerk, F. A. Beebe; city recorder, G. M. Robinson; city treasurer, J. T. Ruffin; marshal, W. W. Thornburg; assessor, J. H. Grubb; collector, W. Woodward; street commissioner, J. W. Hart; city attorney, D. A. Harrison.

1877.—Mayor, John T. Ruffin; aldermen, M. Block, G. W. Stebbins, I. Perkins, Enos Myers; clerk, Jesse Rhoads; city recorder, G. M. Robinson; treasurer, J. L. Bottenfield; marshal, B. F. Thomas; assessor, Jesse Rhoads, collector, W. Woodward; street commissioner, J. W. Hart; engineer, M. N. Randall; city attorney, W. H. McCown.

1878.—Mayor, John T. Ruffin; aldermen, W. H. Smith, George W. Stebbins, W. S. Bower, A. E. Gregory; clerk, Jesse Rhoads; city recorder, W. W. Thornburg; treasurer, John L. Bottenfield; marshal, B. F. Thomas; assessor, Jesse Rhoads; collector, W. Woodward; street commissioner, J. W. Hart; engineer, H. H. Cloud; city attorney, T. B. Haughawout.

1879.—Mayor, George Rader; aldermen, J. W. Sennet, Charles Kesweter, John F. Hampton, W. T. Somers; clerk, Jesse Rhoads; city recorder, Daniel W. Brown; city treasurer, T. M. Garland; marshal, J. B. Buchanan; assessor, Jesse Rhoads; collector, Fred Crocker; street commissioner, J. W. Hart; engineer, H. M. L. Innes; city attorney, F. S. Yager.

#### ORGANIZATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Carthage fire department was organized in December, 1872, by the formation of Fire King Hose Company. The following were its first officers: Foreman, C. O. Harrington; assistant foreman, C. B. Woods.

The first fire apparatus was a Babcock engine and a hook and ladder truck. The fire company was composed of the best citizens of Carthage and for many years gave an annual ball on January 1st, which event was always popular and largely attended.

#### INDUSTRIES OF THE 'SEVENTIES

The Carthage Woolen Mills, for twenty years one of the most important industries of Carthage, was organized July 21, 1870, and made into yarn and cloth the wool of Jasper and neighboring counties. The company was organized with a capital stock of \$20,000. William B. Myers & Son were the organizers of the company, who conducted the business very successfully during the 'seventies. The mill was located on north Main street and some forty hands were employed. It turned out a fine grade of yarn, woolen blankets and high grade jeans-cloth. At the St. Louis Fair in October, 1872, the products from this mill took first prize.

On November 24, 1870, Thomas & Company completed the Globe Mill, a four-story frame. The mill had then a capacity of fifty pounds per day and made a high-grade flour.

In May, 1873, a company was organized to build and operate a foundry at Carthage. The promoters were: J. W. Young, president; J. Brownsell, vice president; C. C. Allen, secretary; T. N. Davey, late of Louisville, Kentucky, superintendent. The works were situated on Garrison avenue, three blocks west of the square. At the close of the 'seventies the stock of this company was quoted at 260.





BUSINESS STREETS IN THE EARLY 'SEVENTIES

On August 7, 1874, the Brownsell wagon factory was established and a two-story brick factory at No. 2 Main street was built. In connection with the wagon factory was also operated the Eagle Machine Works, where farm implements of all kinds were made. Messrs. A. T. Wheeler, Charles Weed, A. H. Merriss, H. J. Hervin and George Keib were associated with Mr. Brownsell in the factory.

In 1875 the company filled a large contract for wagons at Springfield, showing that its reputation had gone beyond the confines of the county.

The Cowgill and Hill Mill was built during the fall of 1874, and as the years went by grew to be a four-story six-burr plant. When first built it was a small structure twenty-six by forty-eight feet. In the later part of the decade the mill was enlarged and new machinery put in, the cost of the expanded plant being \$35,000.

Platts Plow Works were established in 1875 and enjoyed a large business. The company was chartered with \$20,000 capital and brought to Carthage large plow works from Des Moines, Iowa.

#### THE CARTHAGE GAS WORKS

On August 7, 1877, a proposition was made to the city council of Carthage for the construction of gas works by Messrs. Gray, Bowman & Lewis and at a special election, on the 16th of that month, a twenty-years' franchise was granted the company by a vote of 240 to 48. The plant was built at a cost of \$40,000, July 3, 1878. The city was lighted for the first time with gas and the illumination presented a great contrast with the old kerosene lamps. W. L. Carver, of Joplin was made superintendent of the company and managed its affairs for many years.

#### NEWSPAPERS

The *People's Press*, independent in politics, was founded in the spring of 1872, its first issue appearing April 13th. J. A. Bodinhammer was the editor. The paper advocated reform in finance and also was the exponent of the Grange movement.

On December 18, 1873, the office and fixtures of the *Carthage Patriot* was burned, the destruction of building, press, type and paper in stock causing a loss to Mr. Carpenter of \$3,500. The *Carthage Banner*, with true courtesy, tendered the use of its press to the *Patriot* until its building could be rebuilt and the *Patriot* came out at the usual time of publication.

In July, 1877, Thomas H. Garland, the founder of the *Carthage Banner* and for eleven years its editor, retired from the staff of that paper. Mr. Garland was succeeded by A. F. Lewis. The *Banner* was now incorporated and issued stock for \$6,000. The paper was enlarged and another column of telegraphic news added to its reading matter.

The *Carthage Advance*, a religious paper, was established by Rev.

J. W. Jacobs on July 12, 1877. Mr. Jacobs retired and was succeeded by Rev. Dodge as editor.

### BANKS AND BANKING

During the 'seventies three new banks were organized in Carthage and one failed, making a total of five banks which figured in the history of Carthage during the early day.

Early in the 'seventies Al Cahn bought the interest of E. W. Harper in the old Bank of Carthage and was connected with the institution until 1880. Its deposits ranged close to the \$200,000 mark all during the decade.

The pioneer National bank to be established in the county was the First National bank of Carthage, which opened its doors July 6, 1872, with the following officers and directors: President, Jesse Thacker; vice



CARTHAGE IN THE EARLY 'SEVENTIES

president, J. W. Jacob; cashier, D. L. Thomas, and John A. Carter and Eugene O'Keif, directors.

In 1878 the First National Bank surrendered its charter and reorganized as the Traders Bank, with a capital of \$30,000, preferring to operate as a state rather than a national institution.

The Farmers and Drovers Bank was chartered and commenced business in 1875. Levi Star was its first manager. In 1877 the controlling stock was bought by Messrs. Goucher and Moore and the following officers were elected to manage its affairs: D. R. Goucher president and J. L. Moore cashier. Mr. Moore was a very courteous gentleman and soon made the Farmers and Drovers as popular as any financial institution and greatly increased its deposits.

The Jasper County Bank was also organized during the year 1875. M. L. Reed was its president and Fred Crocker, cashier. The bank had

a capital of \$10,000 and did a nice business, its deposits reaching nearly \$75,000.

In February, 1876, after successfully having passed through the panic of 1873, and having maintained a most excellent reputation in a financial way, the banking house of Peter Myers and Company, which had been in existence since 1868, failed, and with its failure brought much financial embarrassment to the business men of Carthage.

The following were the principal losers: J. D. McCrillis, \$5,000; Frank McCrillis, \$1,000; Chaffee & McCrillis, \$1,100; John Onstott, \$3,100; John Gumbro, \$3,000; F. M. Chaffee, \$1,000; T. B. Tuttle, \$2,200; W. C. Betts, \$800; A. Scholwell, \$2,000; C. W. Platt, \$1,800; U. Hendrickson, \$1,500; W. P. Miller, \$1,000; Ruffin & McDaniel, \$1,000; S. B. Griswold, \$700; Dr. Burns, \$700; Thos. E. Gray, \$900; T. C. Canaday, \$200; Miss Brooks, \$700; Mr. Countryman, \$400; Mrs. O. S. Picher, \$700; Mrs. Briggs, \$200; Mrs. Ragsdale, \$300; Mrs. Mastin, of Arkansas, \$6,000.

#### THE KARR HOTEL

The Karr Hotel, southwest corner of Main street and Central avenue, was built in 1878 by J. C. Karr of Parsons, Kansas. The popular hostelry was a three-story structure thirty-six by eighty feet. It was formally opened Thanksgiving day, 1878, with a ball and banquet which was attended by the leading people of Carthage. George W. Rose was its first proprietor.

The year 1879 saw another new and well-equipped hotel opened in Carthage. On March 10th the City Hotel, under the management of Warner & South, threw open its doors to the public. The building was a three-story brick thirty-five by seventy feet and contained a parlor, office and commodious dining room. It was a popular and well patronized dollar-a-day house.

#### THE CARTHAGE OPERA HOUSE

During the winter of 1877-8 the Carthage Opera House was built by Messrs. Burlingame & Chaffee at a cost of \$10,000. The Opera House occupied the second story of a business block on the south side of the square and was fifty-five by one hundred feet with 18-foot ceiling. It had a seating capacity of 900 and was for its day finely appointed. It was opened February 28, 1878, with a grand ball given by the management complimentary to the Carthage Light Guard. The ball was attended by 100 couples and the affair went down in history as the society event of the season.

Some of the best traveling companies of the day appeared in this popular play-house, which was used as a hall until 1889.

#### CARTHAGE BOARD OF TRADE

In 1876 the merchants and business men of Carthage organized a board of trade and the following were elected officers: Amos H. Coffee,



president; S. B. Griswold, vice president; Julius Cahn, secretary and treasurer; A. B. Parkell, J. G. Leidy, J. T. Ruffin, Frank Hill and J. E. Mobley, executive committee.

#### RAILROAD RATES

One of the first important actions taken by the board of trade was the appointment of a railroad committee, which, in August, 1877, made a pilgrimage to North Carolina for the purpose of interviewing the officers of the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf Railway relating to a reduction of freight rates and better connection with the Western at Columbus, Kansas.

No definite promise was secured from the railway officials and on October 4th, with the view of forcing the railroads to a compliance with the laws, Galen Spencer, prosecuting attorney, was asked to file proceed-



CARTHAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL

ings against the agent at Carthage, which he did. After a brief legal battle the roads made some slight concessions to the merchants, and Jasper county profited as a result of the vigorous action of the Carthage Board of Trade. The board also accomplished much good for the community and was a great help to the entire business community.

#### BUILDING OF THE FIRST SCHOOL

On March 9, 1870, a mass meeting was held at Carthage to discuss the subject of building a public school. The meeting was presided over

by Judge O. H. Picher and a number of ringing speeches were made favoring the building of a schoolhouse in keeping with the growing needs of the Queen City. It was decided to ask the school board to submit the question to the people of voting \$30,000 for the building of the new school, and the question carried by a large majority. At the succeeding spring election the following gentlemen were elected members of the board and looked after the details of the building: Jacob W. Young, D. S. Thomas, W. H. Phelps, C. C. Colby, S. B. McMerrick and J. Brownsell. The building was erected on a site containing two and one half acres of land and was patterned after the High School of Richmond, Indiana.

The school was ready for occupancy for the fall term. The following were the teachers who first occupied this building and mapped out the course of study first pursued: S. M. Dickey, principal; S. B. Ormsby, M. L. Boyden, S. E. Brooks, L. C. Merwin, Jennie Herrington, Leba C. Stephenson and J. W. Wilson, teachers.

It will be noted that six of the eight teachers were men. J. C. Mason of Vermont became principal of the Carthage schools in 1875 and served two years. Professor Mason greatly strengthened the schools, but resigned in 1877 to accept the superintendency of the school at Joplin. He was succeeded by L. Willson, principal of the high school.

#### HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY

Under the superintendency of Mr. Willson a course of study for the high school was adopted and the pupils classified accordingly. The following is the course of study adopted August 30, 1877:

LATIN	FIRST YEAR	
	ENGLISH	
Latin. (Grammar and Reader.)	Algebra.	
Algebra.	Arithmetic.	
Arithmetic.	Physical Geography.	
Latin (ut supra).	Algebra.	
Algebra.	Physical Geography.	
Rhetoric.	Rhetoric.	
Latin (ut supra).	Algebra.	
Algebra.	Physical Geography.	
Rhetoric.	Rhetoric.	
SECOND YEAR		
Latin. (Cesar).	Algebra.	
Algebra.	Civil Government.	
Civil Government.	Universal History.	
Latin (ut supra).	Natural Philosophy.	
Natural Philosophy.	Universal History.	
Civil Government.	Civil Government.	
Latin (ut supra).	Natural Philosophy.	
Natural Philosophy.	Universal History.	
Physiology.	Physiology.	

## THIRD YEAR

Latin (Virgil).	English Literature.
Geometry.	Geometry.
English Literature of Mental Science.	Chemistry.
Latin (ut supra).	English Literature.
Geometry.	Geometry.
English Literature or Mental Science.	Astronomy or Geology.
Latin (ut supra).	English Literature.
Geometry.	Geometry.
English Literature or Mental Science.	Botany or Zoology.

## FIRST PUPILS

The following monthly report shows the standing of the pupils of the school at the end of the first year of Prof. Willson's administration; 100 signifies perfect, 90 very good, 80 good and 50 indifferent.

Names of Pupils.	Scholarship	Attendance	Punctuality	Deportment
BOYS.				
Buttler, G. O. ....	96	95	98	93
Crow, Ed. ....	83	100	98	93
Harrison, H. F. ....	94	100	95	90
Houghawout, A. R. ....	95	98	100	90
Jacobs, Jay ....	94	100	100	93
Jacobs, E. B. ....	97	95	98	90
Pixlee, R. O. ....	88	95	100	90
Pixlee, Wm. E. ....	93	95	60	55
Pinney, John ....	82	93	98	90
Pierce, Burt ....	95	100	100	98
Dickey, Charles ....	95	90	98	95
Gibson, G. M. ....	79	90	98	94
Case, C. J. ....	79	85	95	80
Dickey, Frank ....	94	100	98	100
Pierce, Frank ....	97	95	100	95
Woodmansee, M. ....	96	98	95	90
Miles, Charles ....	95	93	100	65
Miles, E. O. ....	93	95	100	95
Chaffee, Frank ....	89	93	93	85
Corwin, Miles ....	94	100	98	95
James, Willie ....	97	100	100	100
GIRLS.				
Brown, Louie. ....	80	80	100	85
Beasley, Nettie ....	87	100	100	90
Chandler, Miriam ....	97	100	100	95
Conwell, Edith ....	79	98	100	90
Chase, May E. ....	87	90	90	90
Funk, Minnie ....	94	65	95	95
Feathers, Clara ....	96	100	93	95
Fisher, Katie ....	91	100	95	95
Fogerson, Adda ....	88	98	73	90

Harrison, Ella .....	88	100	98	95
Jenkyn, Annie .....	92	100	100	95
Long, Mollie .....	95	100	100	95
Millow, Amy .....	83	98	100	100
Peterson, Alice .....	92	100	95	95
Parkell, Florence .....	89	90	100	90
Prigmore, Mattie .....	82	90	100	90
Steinmetz, Laura .....	88	75	95	90
Stockton, Ella .....	92	98	98	95
Young, Emma .....	97	100	100	95
Chaffee, Anna .....	82	98	95	95
Fenner, Lizzie .....	84	95	100	98
Rawson, Wellie .....	92	100	100	98

M. WILSON, Teacher.

This class contains the names of several who have won state-wide reputation. Ed Crow was circuit judge in 1894 and was elected attorney-general of Missouri in 1896. R. O. Pixley was grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias in 1909 and E. B. Jacobs, cashier of the First National Bank of Carthage and president of the Jasper County Bankers Association is one of the shrewdest financiers of the county.

The first class from the high school was graduated May, 1878, and contained the following names: Frank Pierce, Ed C. Crow, Louie Brown, Ira I. McConnell, Florence C. Parkell, Nettie Beasley and Fannie West.

The class of 1879 had five graduates—Charles L. Dickey, Ora M. Brummet, Nanie Dinsmore, Anna B. Spice and Ellen M. Chase.

#### THE CARTHAGE LITERARY SOCIETY

One of the most popular literary societies at Carthage during the early 'seventies was the Carthage Literary Society, which was organized during the fall of 1870 and which, for several winters afterwards, held most interesting meetings. The officers for the season of 1870-1 were W. A. Glassford, president, and A. C. Spencer, secretary.

We note among the Carthaginians who have achieved success in life, the following prominent members of the society: E. Jacobs, George A. Case, and F. M. Harrison.

In 1872 this association was instrumental in securing a lecture course at Carthage which included among others the following noted platform orators: Hon. John Monteith, John Baker, of Chicago, and Prof. Winchell of the Michigan University.

#### THE CARTHAGE LIBRARY

Carthage is often referred to as the Queen City and well deserves the compliment, not only on account of her many beautiful homes, but because of the high moral tone and literary tendencies of its people.

The first public library in the county was founded at Carthage in January, 1870. A number of literary and book-loving people met for the purpose of talking over plans for the establishment of a reading room. Judge O. H. Picher was called to the chair and H. C. Henney



acted as secretary. After a discussion of the matter it was decided to found a library, and the literary-loving people were asked to donate books and subscribe money for its benefit. On February 22nd the society event of the season, a grand ball, was given at Regan's Hall for the benefit of the library and a neat sum was netted. This was the beginning of a series of entertainment given for the library and by June 1st enough money had been raised with which to buy the first instalment of books and magazines.

O. H. Picher and H. C. Henney and Mesdames Tower, Mitchell and Griffith were appointed a committee to select the same. The library at first was placed in the *Banner* Office and H. C. Henney, city editor of that paper, was made librarian. Wednesday and Saturday of each week were library days and the books were widely read. At the end of the first year of the association, four hundred and thirty-seven books were in the library .

This collection continued to grow and later formed the nucleus for the public school library.

## CHAPTER XVI

### CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—THE METHODIST CHURCH (SOUTH)—GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH—THE SWEDISH CHURCH—COLORED CHURCHES—THE METHODIST CHURCH (NORTH)—PRESBYTERIAN AND BAPTIST CHURCHES—RED RIBBON MOVEMENT—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—THE I. O. O. F. LODGES—THE MASONS—CARTHAGE LIGHT GUARD—THE CARTHAGE PIONEER CLUB.

The year 1870 found Carthage with four organized churches—the Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Episcopalian. During the next decade five more churches were established and one more was in course of formation. We present here a sketch, of the religious work of Carthage during the decade of the 'seventies.

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

On the first Wednesday in January, 1870, twelve people met in council in one of the churches of Carthage. When a company of Christians desire to form a Congregational church they adopt their constitution and send invitations to two or more of the nearest Congregational churches which elect a delegate who, with the pastor, responds to the invitation. When the delegation meet they examine the articles of faith the church has prepared and, if found consistent with the Word of God and the Congregational usage, they are, by vote of this council, declared a Congregational church. The council called to meet at Carthage was composed of a delegate from the church at Neosho, Rev. C. C. Caldwell, and one from the church at Lamar, these being the only Congregational churches then organized in the southwest. This council examined the constitution and decided that the society should be known as a Congregational church. H. B. Fry, a graduate of Oberlin College and then the agent of the American Home Missionary Society, was chosen pastor and duly ordained, Rev. C. C. Caldwell of Lamar preaching the ordination sermon.

The sermon of the Rev. Caldwell was the last he ever delivered, having exposed himself by the long drive from Lamar to Carthage in a severe storm and dying a few days after his return home from a sickness brought on by this exposure.

The congregation rented the Methodist church for afternoon services where they worshiped for thirteen months, when they went to the Baptist

church by invitation of that denomination which were then without a pastor. After occupying this building until the society secured a regular pastor they moved to the Presbyterian church, in response to an invitation published by the session of that church inviting the newly organized Episcopal and Congregational churches to worship with them until a house of worship was secured.

In January, 1872, just two years after the organization of the church work was commenced on a chapel. Rev. Fry labored the entire year with the workmen helping to build the church, writing his sermons and making his pastoral calls at night. On November 24th the church was occupied for the first time. A Sunday school was organized on December 1st and had at its first meeting an attendance of forty-one.

The congregation continued to worship in the unfinished building until 1874, when it was completed, the cost up to that time being \$3,600—\$600 for the lot and \$3,000 for the building.

Rev. Mr. Fry resigned the pastorate in July, 1873, and for the next six months the pulpit was filled by J. H. Harwood, special agent of the Home Missionary Society, and Prof. G. H. Ashley of Drury College. In 1874 E. F. Fales from Andover Seminary was called to fill the pastorate and during his service the membership was greatly increased. An additional room called the Tabernacle was built and at the annual meeting of 1879 the church-roll showed one hundred members.

#### THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (SOUTH)

During the spring of 1874 I. F. Gardner and family, of St. Louis, located in Carthage. Mr. Gardner was a member of the South Church having been one of the prominent workers of the Centenary church in that city. On arriving in Carthage he set about to organize a church of Southern Methodists and by his ceaseless labor got together a congregation of thirty-one who called, as their pastor, the Rev. W. Harris of Denver, Colorado. The date of formal organization was October 21, 1877.

Rev. Harris died after a year and a half of work and for a short time Rev. W. S. Woodward and Rev. J. B. Landreth filled the pulpit as supply, when Rev. Geo. H. Williamson was called and took regular charge of the church.

Mr. Williamson was a most zealous worker and a splendid Christian gentleman and soon drew about him a large congregation. The Carthage Patriot, in speaking of him, says: "Mr. Williamson is a man of far more than passing power. His experience is wide, his sympathies true, his emotions deep, his diction pure, his voice cultivated, his Biblical study profound, and his thought clear. His utterance is unusually rapid, but his enunciation distinct. He speaks not to a class, but takes it for granted that, as Mark Twain says, 'there is a common chord of human nature running through the lives of all men, and that which is beneficial to one will not prove injurious to another.' He recognizes no classes in his work, but considers the whole earthly family as the children of God. Mr.

Williamson is too broad for a creed and too independent to be a hired man. He looks upon every man as his brother, the philosophy of his Christianity would swing inward the door of eternal felicity to all, and he speaks as one having authority and not as one who in a spirit of doubting begs permission. He deals not in pyrotechnics of oratory, and labors not even by innuendo to make himself greater than the cause he pleads for or the Master he serves. He is one in life past the mile-stone labelled 'popularity and notoriety,' but his pathetic earnestness and zeal will unconsciously win for him what is sought for by others less gifted, in vain."

#### GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

On Easter Monday, 1870, the members of the Episcopal church met at the residence of W. S. Tower and organized the parish in due form. The vestry consisted of the following: William S. Judd, senior warden; Thos. B. Martin, junior warden; Thomas M. Garland, clerk, and Amos H. Caffee, treasurer. Rev. D. Estang Jennings, the missionary who had temporarily served the church, was elected rector. On the 12th of the year the church building which was being erected was used for the first time, although not then completed. During the next decade the following reverend gentlemen served the church as rectors: Rev. John Serbold, S. Locke and Rev. Robert Wall.

#### THE SWEDISH CHURCH

The Swedish church was organized in June, 1877, the original members being John Carlson, Harland Peterson, August Modice, O. B. Johnson and Christian Olson. A neat little frame church was built on Mound street costing \$1,100. Charles Roos was the first pastor and increased its membership to thirty-five.

#### COLORED CHURCHES

The first colored church to be organized in Carthage was the Second Baptist Colored. An organization was effected during 1873. J. T. Thompson was the leading spirit in the organization. A church building was erected at a cost of \$700 and the congregation at the close of the 'seventies numbered thirty-four.

Wesley Chapel M. E. (Colored) was organized in May, 1878, with twenty-five members. A. Colman was its first pastor and so zealously did he labor that \$1,000 was raised for a church building.

#### THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (NORTH)

The Methodists opened the year 1870 with the most promising future. Their new church which had just been dedicated was the best religious edifice in the city. During this year a parsonage was also built. The following pastors served the congregation during the 'seventies:



1870, Rev. E. P. F. Wells; 1871-4, Rev. O. M. Stewart; 1875, Rev. H. R. Miller; 1876-7, Rev. J. N. Pierce; 1878-9, Rev. Jesse L. Walker.

In March, 1875, this church entertained the annual conference of the denomination. During the 'seventies the Methodists was in point of numbers the strongest church in the city.

#### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In August, 1872, Rev. John W. Pinkerton, after five years' service as pastor of the first Presbyterian church, resigned and accepted a call at Iola, Kansas. During his pastorate, ninety-eight new members had been brought into the church. Rev. Hiram Hill succeeded Rev. Pinkerton as supply until October, 1873, when Rev. T. O. Rice of Des Moines was installed as pastor and remained with the church for two years, when in May, 1875, he was obliged to resign on account of ill health.

Rev. W. S. Knight was invited to the pastorate and accepted, serving for ten years. He was greatly interested in education and was a literary power in the city.

#### THE BAPTIST CHURCH

In 1872 the Baptists sold their church edifice to the county for \$8,000 and a new church was then commenced on a lot which had been donated to them by the North Carthage Land Company. The church at this time under the direction of Elder Cruther. In 1877 Rev. J. M. Smith was called to the pastorate and during his administration the church was completed and the society greatly increased in membership. Rev. Smith remained with the church for three years.

#### THE RED RIBBON MOVEMENT

During the winter of 1877-8 a great temperance wave swept over Carthage and a society, known as the Red Ribbon Club, was organized. The club was so called in honor of Francis Murphy, the great temperance evangelist, who designated his crusades as the Red Ribbon Movement, his followers all wearing a little red ribbon as significant of their zeal for the temperance cause.

Sixteen hundred men joined the Red Ribbon Club at Carthage. The following were the first officers of the club: President, D. A. Morrison; vice presidents, R. A. Cameron, J. R. Smith and M. H. Clark; secretary, Jesse Rhodes; financial secretary, A. W. St. John; treasurer, W. H. Smith; executive committee—J. W. Campbell, W. H. Stewart, J. W. Miles, A. E. Gregory and John N. Wilson.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

The Knights of Pythias constituted the third great fraternal society to be organized in Jasper county. This fraternity has for its cardinal

virtue, friendship, and in its initiatory ceremonies teaches the lesson by an exemplification of the beautiful story of Damon and Pythias. Justin H. Rathbone, the founder of the order, conceived the idea of forming this society while a country school teacher during the winter of 1859, and on February 19, 1864, while employed in the war department at Washington, called together a few of his intimate friends and read to them a ritual he had prepared and proposed the organization, hoping, through its medium, to help reunite in the bonds of friendship, the north and the south. After the close of the war the order grew rapidly and in 1871 was established in Missouri. Fraternal Lodge No. 14 of Carthage, being organized early in 1872, with W. H. Picher as its chancellor commander.

#### THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOW LODGES

April 26th is the natal day of Odd Fellowship in America, and in 1873 was appropriately celebrated in Carthage by the members of the



CARTHAGE IN THE EARLY 'SEVENTIES—REGAN'S HALL

order. Lodges from Neosho, Granby, Newtonia, Pierce City, Sarcxie, Lamar, Midway (Jasper), Avilla and Joplin participated in the parade and there were more than four hundred Odd Fellows in line. Al Cahn was grand marshal and O. H. Travis of Springfield, orator of the day.

After the parade dinner was served in the Grove by the Carthage ladies to the visiting hosts and the following toasts were proposed and responded to: "Our Order," Peter Myers; "The Day We Celebrated," L. I. Matthews; "The Sisters of Rebecca," R. Thornton; "Friendship, Love and Truth," Al Cahn; "Our Invited Brothers," R. F. Brooks.

After supper a dance and general good time were enjoyed at Regan's Hall and prizes were voted to the most beautiful woman, the homeliest man and the most popular Odd Fellow. Mrs. T. A. Wakefield was voted the most beautiful woman and Al Cahn captured the booby prize.

In 1876 Capt. T. B. Tuttle was elected to represent the Southwestern Missouri district in the Supreme Lodge of the order.

On December 18, 1871, the Carthage Encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized, with seven charter members. During the first decade the lodge membership was increased fifty, making its membership at the close of the 'seventies, fifty-seven.

#### THE MASONS

Carthage Lodge, No. 197, A. F. & A. M., continued to prosper during the 'seventies and contained upon its rolls some of the most substantial citizens. The following gentlemen served the lodge as masters during the decade: Peter Beard, 1870; A. H. Caffee, 1871-2; Lyman J. Burch, 1873; Josiah Lane, 1874; John T. Ruffin, 1875-6; Charles C. Allen, 1877; Julius Cahn, 1878; Thomas Buckbee, 1879.

Meridian Sun Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, was organized in 1870 with Lyman Burch as high priest.

#### THE CARTHAGE LIGHT GUARD

The patriotism of our country is symbolized by the citizen soldiery. It was the colonial volunteers in the French and Indian War who made freedom a possibility and it was the volunteer patriot of the Revolution who made it a reality. It was the American volunteers in the War of 1812 who made the United States Navy the mistress of the seas and defeated the British veteran who at Waterloo had crushed the greatest military genius of his day, "Napoleon The Great." It was the Missouri volunteers under the gallant Doniphan who in the Mexican war marched eleven hundred miles across the almost uninhabited country of the southwest and gave to the United States a territory whose richness has added luster to the nation's greatness. It was the volunteers of both the north and the south who made the campaigns of the Civil war the most brilliant military achievements of modern times.

As the volunteers in our several wars have reflected the national spirit, so in the state does the organized militia stand for the highest type of citizenship and keeps alive the glorious memories of our military achievements.

The Carthage Light Guard was organized January 3, 1876, and for years typified the flower and chivalry of the city. The following is a list of the original members, who composed this once famous military organization: Captain, Benjamin F. Garrison; first lieutenant, Albert Cahn; second lieutenant, John A. Hardin; first sergeant, James Degan; second sergeant, W. K. Caffee; third sergeant, M. Lawrence; fourth sergeant, T. B. Tulle; fifth sergeant, Eber Budlong; corporals, L. M. Miller, C. H. Murry, W. B. Myers, Jesse Rhodes, W. B. Brobeck, Chas. Brown, T. B. Haughawout, E. P. Cassell; privates, Miles Mix, C. P. Ball, Joseph W. Hall, J. B. LaForce, C. E. Mathews, Julius Mass, W. B. Farewell, R. P. Cassell, M. P. Keem, B. F. Gunneson, T. Wakefield, Warren Woodward,

Frank Chaffee, John F. Grubb, John N. Wilson, Robert Mitchell, R. C. Friend, Chas. O. Harrington, Frank Beebe, M. Wilson, C. C. Crippen, W. H. Smith, A. W. Onstott, A. T. Setterley, F. S. Yeager, Edward Millard, Chas. Hubb, A. M. Hurty and James A. Bolen.

Until the 'nineties there was no prescribed uniform for the State Militia and each organization chose and paid for its own equipment, except the rifles which were furnished by the state and were of the same pattern as the United States army used.

The Carthage Light Guard uniform was of cadet gray and the company presented a neat appearance. Capt. Garrison was a good drill master and the company attained a high state of proficiency under his captaincy.

On July 6, 1876, a beautiful silk flag was presented to the Light Guard by the citizens of Carthage, A. L. Thomas making the presentation speech. The company gave an annual military ball on the 22nd of February and it was always the social event of the year.

Captain Garrison resigned in 1878 and was succeeded by T. B. Tuttle, who after serving as captain about two years resigned, and W. K. Caffee was chosen his successor. Further members of the company will be made in our chapter on the 'eighties.

#### THE CARTHAGE PIONEER CLUB

On January 1, 1878, a number of old settlers of Carthage met at the residence of A. M. Drake and formed the Carthage Pioneer Club. The first reunion of this society was held January 5th at the residence of J. T. Ruffins and was a very pleasant affair.

According to the Constitution of the club those who had been residents of Carthage for ten years were counted as pioneers and therefore included those who came to Carthage prior to January 1, 1868. The following were the members of the club who attended the first reunion: J. D. Kendrick, Elizabeth H. Kendrick, Emma E. Kendrick, Geo. Rader, Wm. Huffer, H. H. Stewart, A. M. Drake, Sarah M. Drake, Charlie E. Drake, Sherwood A. Drake, Harvey See, Chas. Weed, Cordelia Weed, Annie Weed, R. H. Rose, Doshea Rose, R. H. Rose, Jr., G. A. Rose, Bessie Rose, G. Blakeney, Kate Blakeney, Robert I. Blakeney, Emily F. Blakeney, John T. Blakeney, John Easton, Caroline Easton, W. H. Phelps, Lois Phelps, Maud H. Phelps, Florence P. Phelps, M. Pearl Ruffin, A. H. Caffee, Lacie A. Caffee, Wardie J. Caffee, Edna E. Caffee, Isaac N. Lamb, Sarah J. Lamb, Frank H. Lamb, Ettella Lamb, Thos. M. Garland, Alice V. Garland, Geo. E. Garland, Ada F. Garland, Willie W. Garland, Jeremiah Casey, Ellen Casey, Josiah Lane, Mary E. Lane, Leona B. Lane, Emma Lane, Joanna Lane, Jennie A. Lane, Thos. A. Wakefield, Carrie C. Wakefield, Wm. E. Wakefield, Charlie Wakefield, Fred Wakefield, G. A. Cassil, Emily Cassil, Lucy H. Cunningham, Birdie Cunningham, Esther Y. Hood, Amanda Glass, Sterling Glass, Elvira B. Kendrick, Electra A. Kendrick, Ellen Stockton, Nannie Stockton, D. J. Bliss, Bettie Bliss and Joshua Bates.



On the 11th day of December, 1878, in response to a call for a Jasper County Old Settlers Association, the following persons met at the court house for the purpose of organization: Enos Myers, 1868; John Ruffin, 1866; J. B. Buchanan, 1869; I. N. Lamb and wife, 1866; M. H. Clark, 1869; John Grubb, 1869; A. E. Gregory and wife, 1867; T. B. Tuttle, 1869; T. M. Garland, 1866; D. S. Thomas, 1867; D. E. W. Smith, 1869; James Pattison, 1868; John Easton, 1867; John Hampton, 1868; J. W. Hart, 1868; Bennett Hall, 1867; E. O'Keefe, 1867; S. B. Ormsby and wife, 1868; E. W. Harper, 1867; G. P. Hedge, 1866; M. G. McGregor, 1866; F. T. Welch, 1869; Mrs. F. T. Welch, 1863; A. M. Drake and wife, 1867; George Blakeney and wife, 1867; G. B. McMerrick and wife, 1868; W. Bendict, 1870; C. Keiser, 1870; Charles Gardner, 1868; E. P. Searle, 1867; Dr. Amos Caffee, 1866; Mrs. Mobley, 1868; Mrs. L. P. Cunningham, 1865; Josiah Lane and wife, 1866; T. A. Wakefield and wife, 1866; R. H. Rose, 1866; A. B. Parkell, 1867; Peter Hill, 1867; W. F. Cloud, 1868; J. B. Hodge, 1869; I. W. Driesbach, 1869; E. R. Wheeler, 1867; D. C. Forbes, 1869; Thomas Buckbee, 1866; John Brownsill, 1869; John Keller, 1868; J. W. Sennet, 1868.

M. C. McGregor was called to the chair and E. P. Searl was chosen temporary secretary. Upon taking the chair Mr. McGregor said it was with feelings of great pleasure and pride that he consented to preside over such a gathering as this, and to meet here so many of the early settlers of our beautiful city with whom he had lived from the first of the present growth of the place called back many fond associations of the past when they all used to live in tents upon the grounds now covered by the finest city in the southwest. He said his understanding of this meeting was that it was for the purpose of meeting to perfect an organization of the old settlers of this town.

D. S. Thomas and E. W. Harper made lengthy speeches, advocating the good of a permanent Old Settlers Association.

Judge Lane then stated that he was one of a committee from an organization formed in January last for the same purpose as this meeting, appointed to confer with this meeting. He went on to state that the pioneer society which he represented was organized on January 1, 1878; that his opinion, and that of the first organization, was that there should be but one such society and that all should act in accord in this matter; the first organization was willing to consolidate with any organization that this meeting might perfect and adopt any suitable name, constitution and by-laws. He insisted upon but one such society.

After a lengthy discussion of this matter in which some feeling was shown, it looked as if the meeting would accomplish no good.

R. H. Rose in a happy little speech of conciliatory terms poured oil on the troubled waters, by moving that a committee of five be appointed by the chair to confer with the like committee already appointed by the first organization, to the end that these ten persons might amicably adjust all differences and place matters in such a light that nothing would hinder the successful and harmonious forming of one genuine perma-

nent organization of the early settlers. Mr. Rose's motion carried unanimously, and the chair appointed the following as the committee: E. W. Harper, Peter Hill, John Brownsill, Mrs. I. N. Lamb and A. B. Parkell. The committee from the prior organization consisted of Josiah Lane, R. H. Rose, Amos Caffee, M. M. James and W. H. Phelps.

At a meeting of the Pioneer Club held a few days later they unanimously voted to accept the constitution of the Jasper County Pioneer Club provided that they accept the latter's name, which was done, and the two societies united in an annual reunion January 1, 1879. The meeting was held at Regan's Hall and was presided over by Col. W. H. Cloud who acted as toastmaster.

Addresses were made by O. H. Picher, W. H. Phelps and Col. J. M. Richardson.

The constitution was amended so as to admit to membership all who came to Carthage prior to January 1, 1870, and after electing officers the society adjourned to meet on July 4th, all having had a most excellent time and having done ample justice to the supper.

The following were elected officers for the year: John Onstott, president; J. M. Richardson, first vice president; George Rader, second vice president; Mrs. M. P. Ruffin, treasurer; A. E. Gregory, recording secretary; W. F. Cloud, corresponding secretary; M. M. James, A. H. Caffee, Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Cunningham and Mrs. Lamb, executive committee.

## CHAPTER XVII

### FOUNDING OF JOPLIN

THE FIRST SETTLERS—BLYTHEVILLE POSTOFFICE—JOHN C. COX—FIRST MINING AT JOPLIN—MR. COX PLATS JOPLIN—REV. HARRIS JOPLIN—THE FRANKLIN SCHOOL—MOFFET AND SERGEANT—FIRST NEWSPAPER MENTION—TOWN OF JOPLIN PLATTED—MURPHYSBURG, OR WEST JOPLIN—CLARK CRAYCROFT ARRIVES—FIRST MEAL AT JOPLIN'S HOTEL—MURPHYSBURG MAKES RAPID GROWTH—JOPLIN-MURPHYSBURG (SPRING OF '72)—JOPLIN AS A MINING CAMP—THE "REIGN OF TERROR"—THE MAN OF THE HOUR—UNION CITY—EARLY LEGISLATION—DISSOLUTION—LONE ELM—EARLY NEWSPAPERS—POSTOFFICE FOR UNION CITY—JOPLIN'S FIRST "FOURTH OF JULY"—THE MINERS' UNION—FIRST ODD FELLOWS' LODGE—FIRST ELECTION—ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOLS—SCHOOL OF WEST JOPLIN—EAST JOPLIN LITERARY SOCIETY—FIRST CHURCH—THE M. E. CHURCH SOUTH—ST. PETER'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH—THE AFRICAN M. E. CHURCH—JOPLIN AND BAXTER STAGE LINE—AMUSEMENT HALLS—RACE TRACK—VALUE OF ZINC DISCOVERED.

The city of Joplin covers an area of seventeen and one half square miles and has grown from half a dozen families (who resided in the territory now covered by the city in 1870) to thirty-five thousand inhabitants at this writing.

The history of Joplin properly begins with the coming of Moffet & Sergeant, but before we take up the narrative of the events which followed the digging of the first shaft in the Joplin Creek valley, we will mention a few of the happenings which occurred before the advent of these gentlemen.

#### THE FIRST SETTLERS

In 1838 John C. Cox settled on Turkey creek and homesteaded a half section of land where he began to farm. In 1841 he built a home near the present site of the old Cox homestead which is prominently located in the northeastern portion of the city on a picturesque eminence, which was called by the first settlers Wig Hill. In connection with his farm Mr. Cox also conducted a general store and built a log store building near his home. It was in this store where the first postoffice in the western part of the county was kept.

## THE BLYTHEVILLE POSTOFFICE

In 1840 the people who lived in the western portion of the country of the Six Bulls petitioned the government to establish a postoffice at some point on Turkey creek for the accommodation of the settlers living between Spring river and School creek. The nearest postoffice then was Sarcoxie. After many overtures the postal authorities agreed to establish an office, provided the people would bear the cost of the same, as the business would not pay the expense of its maintenance and the carrier who would have to bring the mail from Sarcoxie.

John C. Cox agreed to serve the people gratis and was, accordingly, on the 17th day of January, 1841, commissioned postmaster of the new office, which was christened Blytheville in honor of Billy Blythe, a wealthy Cherokee Indian who resided on Shoal creek and who was noted far and wide for his integrity and fair dealing. The government al-



BLYTHEVILLE POSTOFFICE

lowed the earnings of the office to be applied on the mail carrier's pay and the deficit was made up by the patrons of the office.

The Blytheville postoffice was maintained, excepting during the war, until 1872, when the name was changed to Union City and moved to Murphysburg (West Joplin).

Until the Civil war mail was brought from Sarcoxie and later from Carthage, once a week, and the arrival of the mail carrier was an event which brought to Blytheville the farmers for miles around. During these three decades Mr. Cox was the central figure around which the business and social interests of the community revolved and we present here a brief sketch of his life.

## JOHN C. COX

John C. Cox was born in Burke county, North Carolina, September 6, 1811. His parents were David and Lucy Branch Cox. At the age



of eight years young Cox moved with his parents to Tennessee and grew to manhood on the farm. In 1828 his father was elected sheriff of Jackson county, Tennessee, and held the position for six years. During the last three years of his term Mr. Cox, then having reached his majority, served as deputy.

Mr. Cox was married in 1837 to Miss Sarah Mercer and shortly after the marriage emigrated to Missouri, locating in Jasper county and making the long journey overland in company with a party of Tennesseans.

When Center Creek township was organized, in 1841, Mr. Cox was appointed one of the two justices of peace and filled the position for many years. In 1850, on discovering the value of the land in the Joplin Creek valley, Mr. Cox entered and perfected the title to a section of land and on this the first mining of the original town of Joplin was done. In 1852 Mr. Cox filled the office of county surveyor.

During the war, although a slave holder, Mr. Cox was loyal to the Union and took no part in the conflict. But it was almost impossible to live in Jasper county and be neutral during the war and in 1863, after having been burned out by one of the many raiding parties he moved to Neosho and remained there until the close of hostilities, when he returned to the old homestead. In 1870 Mr. Cox leased a tract of land to Messrs. Moffet & Sergeant for mining purposes and from the royalties on the lead taken from his ground amassed a considerable fortune.

#### MR. COX PLATS JOPLIN

In July, 1871, Mr. Cox platted the original town of Joplin and thus took the first steps toward making the young mining camp a permanent town. In 1875 he was elected one of the judges of the county court and made a high reputation for his honesty and fair dealing.

#### REV. HARRIS JOPLIN

In 1839 the Rev. Harris Joplin, a Methodist minister, came to Jasper county from Greene county and built a cabin where now stands the Joplin Children's Home. There he entered about eighty acres of land lying on either side of the little stream which wends its way from the big Springs down to Joplin creek, which took its name because its headwaters ran through the reverend gentleman's farm (the course of Joplin creek at its head was changed by the digging of Picher's ditch). The Reverend Joplin organized at his cabin a Methodist church and conducted services here on Sundays until 1845, when he returned to Greene county, where he died in 1847, ignorant of the fact that his name and deeds would be perpetuated in the history of the great mining industry of Jasper county.

#### THE FRANKLIN SCHOOL

During the 'forties a school district which embraced the greater portion of southwest Jasper county was organized and a log school built

near Castle Rock. The school was on the south side of the creek and not far from the old Schifferdecker Garden.

In 1870, when the mining activities of Joplin were commenced, the district extended from Pilot Grove (now Mount Hope Cemetery) on the north to the county line on the south, and from Harmony Grove on the east to where Schifferdecker Park is now on the west. This old log building, although like most of the pioneer schools poorly furnished and without modern conveniences, housed a sturdy class of pupils, was presided over by a number of good masters and sent out into the world a number of boys and girls who have achieved success. The following are some of the boys and girls who there learned their three R's: John C. Cox, Jr., capitalist; B. F. Cox, attorney and retired capitalist; Mrs. Alex

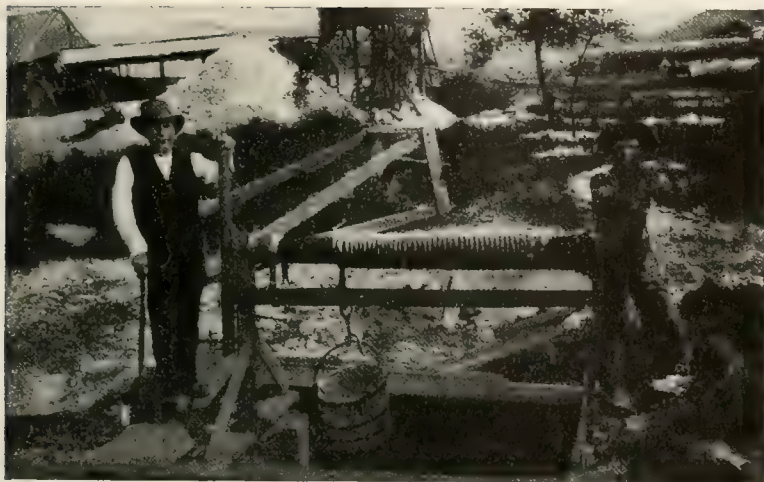


OLD COX HOMESTEAD (BUILT IN 1867), EAST TOWN, JOPLIN

Campbell (nee Josie Cox) who was, by the way, the champion speller of the school; Mrs. Dr. Blackwell (nee Sadie Cox); W. S. Taylor, ex-county assessor and James Turk, Villa Heights booster.

#### MOFFET AND SERGEANT

During the spring of 1870 J. Morris Young, superintendent of the Grandby Company at Oronogo, offered a reward of five hundred dollars to the miner or company of miners who should mine the most lead from any one shaft during the four months from March 4th to July 4th, inclusive. E. R. Moffet and John B. Sergeant won the prize. With this five hundred dollars for a capital they leased a ten-acre tract of land from John C. Cox in the Joplin Creek valley and commenced mining for themselves.



OLD-FASHIONED WINDLASS



FIRST ATTEMPT AT A HOISTER (A WHIP)



Messrs. Moffet and Sergeant pitched their tent in the Joplin Creek valley in August, 1870. Their first shaft was put down about five hundred feet north of the Broadway bridge over Joplin creek and after several weeks of prospecting, during which time their money was about all expended, they struck a fine body of ore. It is told by old timers that the shot which opened up this rich pocket of lead was borrowed, their stock of powder being exhausted.

The news of the Moffet and Sergeant strike spread over the neighborhood and soon a dozen miners were prospecting in the Joplin Creek valley and the little camp which sprang up naturally was called Joplin.

The Moffet and Sergeant strike proved to be a rich one and they soon erected a smelter to smelt their lead, the melted product having a more ready sale than the raw material. The smelter was built near their first mine and not far from the site of the new Union depot.

January 1, 1871, saw about twenty prospectors in the Joplin Creek valley and by August, one year after the first strike, it was estimated that there were five hundred people in the camp, most of whom were men.

#### FIRST NEWSPAPER MENTION

In its issue of June 22, 1871, the *Carthage Banner* makes this first mention of the new camp: "There is a new town in Jasper county. Its name is Joplin and it is located fourteen miles southwest of Carthage on the farm of J. C. Cox. It has lead in unlimited quantities under it. Everybody out of employment ought to go there and dig. That is better than doing nothing and it may lead to fortune."

This first mention of the new bonanza attracted the attention of many and in an incredibly short time Joplin was a red-hot camp, the Creek valley being literally filled with tents and small-box houses.

#### TOWN OF JOPLIN PLATTED

Seeing the richness of the mines on his farm and realizing the commercial value of a permanent town, John C. Cox decided to lay out a small town and platted on the hill, just east of the mining activities, the original town of Joplin. The plat was filed for record July 28, 1871, and lots were at once placed upon the market. The first lot was bought by Henry Blockwell, lot No. 5, block 2, northwest corner of Cox and Central avenue, on which he built a dwelling house. The lot is now owned by P. L. Crossman and the house, which was remodeled in 1887 by Chancellor Livingston, the owner at that time, is one of the prettiest in East Joplin.

#### MURPHYSBURG, OR WEST JOPLIN

During the month of July, 1871, Patrick Murphy of Carthage organized the Murphysburg Town Company, consisting of himself, his partner, W. P. Davis, C. W. Elliott and wife of Oronogo, and William Byers. A forty-acre tract of land on the hill west of the creek was purchased and a town laid out and platted. The town west of the creek was



called Murphysburg. In August Murphy & Davis commenced the erection of a store, corner of First and Main streets and there opened up a general store on the completion of their building.

The field notes and the survey of Murphysburg were completed the 1st of September and the plat filed for record on September 4, 1871. The first lot in Murphysburg was sold to H. Geldmacher, better known among the miners as "Moneymaker"—lot No. 4 on Main street, between First and Second, on which he erected a building which he used for a bakery and lunch room.

The following story is told about the sale of the first lot in Murphysburg. The lines were run by the surveyor, E. Lloyd, during the latter part of July, but the field notes and plat were not put in form until the latter part of August. As soon as the lines were run and a blue print of the new town made, lots were placed on the market and a number of



FIRST JOPLIN HOUSE, BUILT BY MR. BLOCKWELL

Picture taken in 1886.

them sold, the deeds being formally signed and delivered after the plat was filed.

On the 4th day of August Mr. Murphy and John S. Reynolds were at work putting up a store building at the southwest corner of Main and First, when Mr. Geldmacher, with three wagon loads of household furniture, baking utensils and confectionery stock, drove up and in broken German inquired for Mr. Murphy. Mr. Murphy asked what he wanted and on being informed by Mr. Geldmacher that he wanted to buy a lot, came down off the scaffold and showed him the blue print which had just been completed. They walked off to the south of the store a few feet and Mr. Geldmacher selected his lot and paid the price agreed upon. Returning to his teams he drove his effects to the lot and began unloading. As soon as the wagons were unloaded, Mr. Geldmacher began building a bakeoven and after it was completed mixed a batch of bread and put in a bake. In the meantime, he put up a tent and lived in this until

his house was built. Lumber for a two-story structure was purchased and carpenters were set to work to build a house which was to be used as a restaurant and bakery.

#### CLARK CRAYCROFT ARRIVES

Clark Craycroft ate the first meal in the new hotel and relates the following interesting story about his first trip to Joplin: In June, 1871, Mr. Craycroft was graduated from the State University at Columbia and was casting about to settle into some business or profession. A friend of his in Cooper county had inherited a farm in Jasper county near the present site of Carl Junction and was coming out to see it. He asked Mr. Craycroft to come with him on the trip. The drive overland from Cooper county to Jasper took five days and they came to the



OPENING A NEW CAMP IN THE 'SEVENTIES

Spring river country about the early part of August. One morning, about the middle of the month, he started out with his rifle for a hunt, hoping to scare up a deer. At that time Mr. Craycroft had never heard of Joplin. He walked along the Center Creek prairie where he came to the old Manlove ford and, taking off his shoes and stockings, waded across the creek and came out in the woods south of the stream, walking south half a mile or so. Reaching the prairie between Center and Turkey creeks, partly from curiosity and partly because he thought that he could scare up a turkey, he crossed it and came to Turkey creek. The water being shallow, he crossed and pushed on to the south, making his way up the valley now used by the Kansas City Southern Railway Company for their tracks, came into the Kansas City Bottom and there discovered Joplin, which at that time was in the Joplin Creek valley. He walked on up through the mines and met John B. Sergeant at the old shaft where he and Mr. Moffet had first struck lead. He had a pleasant

conversation with Mr. Sergeant, little dreaming that 'ere long he would be the son-in-law of the mining king.

#### FIRST MEAL AT "MONEY-MAKER'S" RESTAURANT

Mr. Craycroft inquired of Mr. Sergeant a place to get his dinner and was informed that Mr. "Money-maker" was building a bakery and restaurant up on the hill. Arriving at "Money-maker's" place, he found that the building was not yet completed, or the furniture in place (two carpenters were then working on the building, one shingling the roof and the other making a table), and was informed that if he would wait awhile that he could be served, as one of the tables was almost completed. When the carpenter had finished the first able, he set it in place and wiped the shavings off with his carpenter apron. Mr. Craycroft drew up a chair, laid his hat on the floor, stood his rifle up against the wall and got a good square meal, the first one to be served in the eating house, which for twenty years after occupied a prominent place in Joplin history.

Mr. Craycroft's visit to the mining camp made a lasting impression on his mind and, after having read law and been admitted to the bar, he returned to Joplin, arriving there the second time in April, 1875.

Mr. Craycroft, in relating his experiences to the author says: "I came to Joplin in 1875 with \$4.65 in my pocket. My library consisted of two books and I possessed in addition, a silk hat and a long-tailed coat. The hat I lost in Shoal creek while saving a friend from drowning. The coat I wore out, but I still have the two books and the major part of the \$4.65."

Mr. Craycroft is now a retired lawyer and capitalist, having a goodly portion of the world's goods and being counted by most people as a rich man.

#### MURPHYSBURG MAKES A RAPID GROWTH

The Murphysburg Town Company adopted a most liberal policy in the disposal of the lots and offered such easy terms of payment that they sold rapidly, and before the close of the year there were either built, or being built, some fifty houses in the town on the west side of the creek. Among other inducements which were offered by the west side company were the following: Main street was widened, being made eighty feet wide, thus offering better opportunities for the transaction of business. Desirable lots were sold on a small payment down and long time on the balance; and perhaps the most attractive offer—when a lot was sold, if the purchaser would build a house the company would make him a deed to the lot next to it.

In October, 1871, Messrs. Murphy and Davis built a smelter north of First street, about B and Joplin, and employed a large force of men.

#### THE JOPLIN MINING & SMELTING COMPANY

During the same fall a company, the Joplin Mining and Smelting Company, capitalized at \$200,000 (mostly held by Kansas City parties),



was organized and began the development of the land in Joplin Creek valley north of the Moffet & Sergeant and Murphy & Davis mines. The northern portion of the Joplin Creek valley has since been known as the Kansas City Bottom. The organizer and leading spirit of the company was John H. Taylor, who from that time to his death, was identified with the mining interests of Joplin. The Joplin Mining & Smelting Company soon acquired a large tract of land extending along the entire east side of Joplin Creek valley to Fourth street on the south, and on this land a monster addition was platted, the lots in the valley and west side of Moon Range (the crescent shaped west side of East Joplin Hill) being reserved for mining purposes and the ones on the hill for residence property.

1871 drew to a close with the two towns—Joplin and Murphysburg and the valley between them—containing approximately two thousand people, an increase of one thousand five hundred since the platting of the two burgs. Both of the towns had about the same population and the rivalry between them was intense; in fact, the rivalry led to much ill feeling and did not die out until many years after the two places had been united into one city.

#### JOPLIN-MURPHYSBURG (SPRING OF '72)

In January, 1872, there were in Joplin one general store, three groceries, one furniture store, one hardware store, one pawn shop, one clothing store, one news stand, two liverys, one meat market, one boot and shoe store, one drug store, one dry goods store, one restaurant, one bakery, one doctor, one barber, one hack line, four saloons, smelters all in Valley Bottom.

At Murphysburg were: Four general stores, one lumberyard, one clothing store, one livery, one meat market, one boot and shoe store, one drug store, three smelters, four hotels and restaurants, one billiard and pool room, one doctor, two barbers, one blacksmith, and two saloons.

#### JOPLIN AS A MINING CAMP

All of the capital that was required to become a prospector and if successful, a mine operator, in the early day of Joplin, was a pick, a shovel and two willing hands. The mining was almost entirely shallow-digging, and only lead was sought for, the value of zinc then being unknown. Every man who wished to prospect made application to one of the companies or land owners for a mining lot and signed the register which contained the contract and record of sub-leases. The mining lots were usually two hundred by two hundred. The miner sunk at his own expense his shaft, and if successful paid to the land owner or company, as the case might be, a royalty or per cent. of the mineral turned in. The royalty at first was 50 per cent, but later was reduced as the number of mines and expense of mining increased.



Among the prospectors who came to Joplin during the first year of its existence were a man and his wife, who were residents of Arkansas and were attracted here by the fabulous story of the new El Dorado. The man took a lot on the Moon Range and began sinking a shaft; when it was down about twelve feet he rigged up a rickety windlass and his wife hoisted the dirt to the top of the shaft—a willing worker with her husband and sharing with him the excitement and hardships of the prospect. When the shaft was down about twenty feet, he struck a rich pocket of lead and in two months' time had taken out \$10,000 worth of mineral. When the mine was worked out, he and his good wife returned home and with their quickly amassed little fortune purchased a fine farm.

Alonzo Bradbury was another lucky miner on the old Moon Range. In his mine he dug out a large chunk of lead, at about fifty feet depth,



A HORSE HOISTER

which weighed over 4,000 pounds and it was necessary, in order to get it out without breaking, to enlarge the shaft, put up a temporary derrick and to use a block and tackle to hoist it to the surface, which was accomplished with no little trouble, because machinery was a scarce article in those days.

The specimen was taken from the Moffet & Sergeant land, was placed on a sled and drawn to the American House (Murphysburg's first hotel, southeast corner First and Main streets) and there placed on exhibition.

J. C. Gaston took out of his mine, also on Moon Range, a chunk of lead which weighed 1,080 pounds.

In the fall of 1872 a hotel, the Bateman House, was moved from Baxter Springs to Joplin and rebuilt in East Joplin at the corner of Hill and Galena Avenue. The hotel was managed by George H. Ruddy, later of the Joplin and Keystone hotels, was a popular hostelry, and continued the leading hotel until its destruction by fire, in 1875.

## THE REIGN OF TERROR

The two towns made a phenomenal growth and naturally where so many people were congregated, with no local government, "everything went." The miners about the camp living as they did in a constant state of excitement, and without the refining influence of the home (for in most instances the family was left behind), plunged into a continuous round of merry-making and the lawless element, unrestrained by the officers, had everything their own way. Men who lived on the excitement of frontier life flocked to the new town and gave the "future great" a bad name; and so the winter of 1871-2 came to be known as the Reign of Terror.

It must not be understood that all of Joplin's citizens countenanced these unlawful acts, or participated in all of the vices that existed; for such was not the case. The great majority of the prospectors who came



JOPLIN'S FIRST HOTEL: GEORGE H. RUTDY AND C. F. TAYLOR IN FOREGROUND

in 1871-2 were from southwestern Missouri and southeastern Kansas. They came from the stores, the work shops, the factories and the farms and were from among the best citizens of Missouri and Kansas, and, while they lived amidst the wild excitement of the day and in a way participated in the revelry, they were good citizens and composed the sturdy yeomanry who laid the broad foundation of a great city.

As mentioned before, most of the men who came to Joplin in its early day left the family at home, for there were but few who expected to live here longer than to make a quick fortune and then return, but there were a few men, like John B. Sergeant, Pat Murphy and William Carter, who saw far into the future and who had an unshattered confidence in the mining industry and built for a greater Joplin.

During this period, when Joplin possessed all of the elements of a red-hot mining camp, it was no uncommon sight to see "Reckless Bill,"

"Three Fingered Pete," and "Rocky Mountain Bob" attired in regular western frontier style. Street fights were common occurrences and occasionally the excitement was heightened by a shooting scrap. It must be observed, however, that, considering the conditions that existed, there were but few murders, the lawlessness for the most part being good-natured revelry.

#### THE MAN OF THE HOUR

During the latter part of January, 1872, a little incident occurred which helped to bring the Reign of Terror to a close. A desperado, who styled himself "Dutch Pete," the bad man from Bitter creek, was terrorizing the town of Murphysburg. J. W. Lupton, a miner, who was prospecting on the Moffet & Sergeant land, was a trained athlete, a good shot, and, in the right cause, a good fighter. He was one of the citizens who thought that the time had come to bring the Reign of Terror to a close, and, on hearing of the depredations of the wild and woolly citizen, proposed to subjugate him. Although warned not to take a hand, he walked boldly up to the unwelcome stranger, after a desperate struggle threw him to the floor and, after tying the bully, disarmed him. The incident proclaimed Bill Lupton the man of the hour, and brought forcible to the attention of the citizens of the towns, the necessity of having a local government and officers to enforce the law.

A meeting of the good people was held and a resolution passed praying the county court to make a municipal township of southwestern Jasper county and to appoint J. W. Lupton as constable. At the February meeting of the county court Galena township was created. The township included all of Galena township, as now organized, and the west half of Joplin township which was organized later. J. W. Lupton was appointed constable and I. W. Davis, late of Baxter Springs, and D. W. Jones, justices of the peace.

It is told by old-timers that Judge Davis, at the time of his appointment as justice in Galena township, held a similar position at Baxter Springs and did not resign his Kansas commission or move his family here until after he had assumed the judicial ermine in Missouri. It used to be said in a joking way that the judge would hold court one day at Baxter and the next day at Joplin. Laying aside jokes, however, Judge Davis was a well-informed lawyer and made a good justice, and until the 'eighties figured prominently in Joplin legal and social life.

#### UNION CITY

The question was now agitated of consolidating the two towns and on February 27, 1872, a mass meeting of the citizens of both towns was held at Brazelle's store to discuss the advisability of incorporating as a town. The meeting, which was largely attended, was presided over by John B. Sergeant, and Messrs. P. Murphy, Jesse Shortess, W. M. Carter, Wm. Fallis and others spoke in favor of incorporation. A committee,



consisting of H. Campbell, W. M. Carter, and P. Schnur, of Murphysburg, and Jesse Shortess and William Fallis of Joplin, were appointed to draft and circulate petitions praying the county court to incorporate the two towns under the name of Union City.

The petition was presented to the county court March 14th and that body made an order incorporating the town of Union City, which included both Joplin and Murphysburg.

The board of trustees appointed to hold until the general election in November, 1872, were Jesse Shortess, W. H. Fallis, Chas. A. Underwood, E. R. Moffet and John S. Workizer.

On the 19th of the month the board went to the county seat, took the oath of office as trustees and organized by electing Jesse Shortess as president; C. J. G. Workizer, clerk; J. W. Lupton, marshal; I. W. Davis, police judge and P. Murphy, treasurer.

Jesse Shortess, the executive officer of Union City, was born January 16, 1820, at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. He received a liberal education and was especially gifted in mathematics. After the war he was elected a member of the legislature from Benton county, Arkansas, and served with distinction for two terms, advocating and championing, during his service in that body, laws in the interest of good roads and popular education. He was by nature a peacemaker and endeavored, during his service as president of the board of trustees, to bring about a better feeling between the two towns. Mr. Shortess endeavored also to uplift the moral tone of the city. He died April 3, 1882.

The incorporation of Union City brought the Reign of Terror to an end, and during the year 1872 many improvements were made. Many men who before had hesitated at bringing their families to the "future great," now felt that the camp had permanency and stability and brought their families to the new town. During the year also three new mining camps were opened up—Lone Elm, Parr Hill and Swindle Hill.

#### EARLY LEGISLATION FOR UNION CITY

The board of trustees immediately passed a number of ordinances looking to the betterment of the town—enactments against disturbance of the peace, "pistol-toting," drunkenness, etc., and a small jail was built on Broadway between the two towns. The jail was made of two by four oak timber and had two apartments or cells.

#### THE FIRE PATROLS

Perhaps the most unique law passed by the trustees of Union City one, too, which showed the originality of the pioneer lawmakers and likewise carried out the idea that "necessity is the mother of invention") was the ordinance which was designated "the Fire Patrols." The law provided that, for the purpose of protecting the town against fire, every man who operated a store or business house on Main street or Broadway should keep in front of his place of business a barrel of water and a



bucket to be used in case of fire. When a fire broke out in any house, every man got his bucket, filled it with water and rushed to the scene of the conflagration. This was called the Bucket Brigade. If the fire had not gained much headway, it was sometimes put out, but it will be readily seen that the fire-fighting apparatus was decidedly primitive. A destructive fire in East Joplin, on December 22nd, swept away a whole business block, including a large hotel.

#### DISSOLUTION OF UNION CITY

While the organization of Union City brought the Reign of Terror to a close and helped to strengthen the confidence in the future of the mining district, it did not succeed in doing away with the rivalry and ill feeling between the east and west towns; many people in East Joplin clamored for a separate city government east of the creek, claiming that the east side did not have the same police protection as Murphysburg. The bitterness grew, and, feeling aggrieved, some of the merchants of East Joplin refused to pay an occupation tax and one of the saloon keepers took the matter into court, seeking to dissolve the town on the ground that it had not been legally incorporated, setting up that the petition which was presented to the county court contained the names of many who were not bona fide citizens of the town. The case was taken to Barton county on a change of venue and during the month of December, 1872, was tried and decided against the town. The incorporation of Union City was dissolved, and the old names of Joplin and Murphysburg were resumed. The last act of the corporation of Union City was to provide for the taking of the census of the town. The count showed that East Joplin had a population of 1,364 and Murphysburg 1,343, and total 2,707.

W. H. Fallis, the census taker, reported that there were also 1,200 outside of the city limits, but properly a part of the town, making approximately 3,500 in the Joplin district at the close of the year 1872.

#### LONE ELM

Lone Elm was a thrifty part of Joplin situated on the hill and in the valley in the northern portion of the city west of Joplin creek, and was so called on account of a lone elm tree which stood by the roadside. Lone Elm, during the middle and later 'seventies, contained upward of 2,500 people, and had some twenty business houses in addition to the big Granby Furnace. It was distinctly a mining community and, being built on mining land, as time went by the houses were moved away until now only a few of the old landmarks remain and only the old Lone Elm road is left to tell the story of its once busy life.

#### EARLY NEWSPAPERS

In March, 1872, Peter Schnur of Carthage, who, by the way, had been connected with the *Carthage Banner*, came to Murphysburg and es-

tablished the *Mining News*. The first issue, a small four-page paper, appeared on March 7th and proved a popular publication and after the first month doubled in size. This paper had a great influence on the early life of Joplin. Peter Schnur, its editor and proprietor, was a good writer and in the narrative of events as they happened from week to week, told the plain truth, avoiding the sensational and printing only so much of the news of the under-strata of society as was necessary to correctly chronicle the happenings of the day.

Editorially he advocated a better local government and always was on the side of public improvement. He set out the needs of a good school system and encouraged the church in its early work. The early issues of this paper had much to do with molding public opinion.

The paper was Republican in politics but not radically partisan, for it gave credit to the good acts of officers of the opposite political faith and criticised the wrongful acts of men of its own party. The people appreciated the value of the permanency of a newspaper of the right kind and the Murphysburg Town Company, with a view of encouraging the proposition, donated a lot on the corner of Second and Joplin streets on which to build a newspaper office. Mr. Schnur built a house for his plant on the lot, the building which is still standing facing Second street and being just across the street from the city jail.

The *Daily Index*, as a Democratic paper, was started in East Joplin and was published for a short time, the first issue appearing September 19, 1872. The paper was ably edited and was a spicy sheet, but did not receive sufficient financial encouragement and suspended publication after a year of struggle against adverse circumstances.

#### POSTOFFICE FOR UNION CITY

On April 1, 1872, the postoffice at Blytheville was discontinued and an office created for Union City. M. W. Stafford was appointed postmaster and opened the office in Murphysburg. There was much dissatisfaction in East Joplin over this change and after the dissolution of Union City an office was established in East Joplin. J. C. Orner was appointed postmaster and opened the office for business December 18, 1872. Two separate offices were maintained until 1877, when the east-side office was abolished and the two offices combined and opened at Second and Main streets.

#### THE FIRST BANK

The National Savings Bank of Joplin opened its doors in July, 1872, with the following officers: S. B. Corn, president; John H. Taylor, vice president; Wm. Graves, cashier; John Hayes, assistant cashier.

The new institution was capitalized at \$5,000 and had its place of business in East Joplin, at the corner of Galena and Broadway.

On January 1, 1873, John H. Taylor bought the bank, doubling its capital and also forming banking connections at St. Louis, Kansas City and New York, which greatly increased its influence. In 1874 C. W. Glover became cashier of the bank.

During the palmy days of 1874-6 the bank's deposits ranged around the \$300,000 mark, but on the decline of lead in 1877 its business began to fall off, and in 1879 Mr. Taylor decided to close the institution and, after paying all depositors and meeting other obligations surrendered its charter. The loss of the bank was a great blow to East Joplin.

#### JOPLIN'S FIRST "FOURTH OF JULY"

July 4, 1872, was appropriately celebrated at the two Joplins by a day picnic at Grand Falls and by a liberal display of night fireworks. While Grand Falls is in Newton county, it has always been regarded as a part of Joplin, for until the building of the big dam in 1889 the Falls was Joplin's most popular pleasure resort. Before the building of the dam the Falls was a most beautiful place. On the right side of the miniature Niagara was a long ledge of rock which overhung the bank in the valley below and gave it the appearance of a cave. The ledge is some twenty feet above the valley, making a spectacular formation like the Palisades of the Hudson. (This romantic cave-like ledge has long since been filled with cinders from the ice plant.) Over this ledge was built a pretty house, which served the two-fold purpose of a country inn and a speaker's stand, for the balcony-like porch made an ideal stand for a speaker to address the multitude in the valley below.

#### THE MINERS' UNION

The first attempt at organized labor in Joplin occurred during the fall of 1872, when eighty men organized the Miners' Union and endeavored to regulate labor conditions among the miners. The object of the union was to improve labor conditions. John Riley was elected president and John Howe secretary. The organization attempted to enforce the following four rules: (I) No miner to hold more than one mining lot at a time. (II) Each miner prospecting a lot must employ at least one able-bodied man for help. (III) Twenty days' failure to work the ground forfeits the mine. (IV) All disputes to be settled by arbitration.

A Miners' court was established and M. F. Agers chosen miners' magistrate. All differences were referred to him and when he did not succeed in adjusting the dispute persons were chosen to arbitrate the case. The miners' magistrate corresponded to the walking delegate among the labor unions of today.

#### FIRST ODD FELLOWS' LODGE

The first fraternal organization to plant itself in Joplin was the Odd Fellows, which contained then, as now, some of the best business men of the city.

It is always a great event when any fraternal society is organized, because it means that, so far as the lodge's influences extend, so much more good will be done and the community accordingly bettered.

The influence of a great fraternity like the Odd Fellows, teaching and practicing friendship, love and truth among its members, could not help but have a refining influence on the men of the mining town, and the new city was fortunate in having among its citizenship men of the three-linked fraternity. The first meeting looking toward the formation of a lodge was held July 21, 1872, and was attended by seventeen members of the society, holding membership in almost as many different lodges of the order. Jesse Shortess presided at the meeting and J. C. Maddy acted as secretary. After discussing the matter it was decided to petition the Grand Body for a charter, and the lodge was formally instituted November 1, 1872, being christened Joplin Lodge No. 287. The institutional ceremonies were conducted by Lyman J. Burch of Carthage, D. D. G. M., assisted by John W. McAntire, of Scotland county, who had that day arrived in Joplin to make it his future home.

The following were the first officers of the lodge: John Allington, noble grand; S. H. White, vice noble grand; Ira Creech, secretary pro tem; S. W. Beach, permanent secretary; Wm. Karbe, treasurer.

The first work done by the lodge was on November 22nd, when J. W. McAntire, J. W. Clehouse, J. A. Miller, Arnold Hogle and J. B. Thomas were initiated into the order. W. E. Johnson, who was initiated February 7, 1873, is the oldest surviving member of the lodge, having had a continuous membership in the lodge from that date. The original charter members and the four initiated, who preceded him, have either moved away or gone to the Grand Lodge On High.

#### FIRST ELECTION IN JOPLIN

The first election in Galena township which at that date included East and West Joplin resulted as follows: For president, Grant, Republican, 354; Greeley, Democrat, 287—showing the town on a strict party vote to be Republican by sixty-five majority.

The township election was conducted along non-political lines and resulted as follows: Justice of the Peace—Clehouse, Democrat, 547; Norton, Republican, 367; Gaston, Republican, 137. Clehouse and Norton, being the two who received the highest number of votes, were declared elected.

There were six candidates for constable and the votes varied from 55 to 222, the latter cast for the lucky candidate William Brown, who was declared elected.

During the campaign of 1872, Gen. John B. Henderson addressed the people of the two Joplins, speaking from a platform in front of the Southwestern Hotel.

#### ORGANIZATION OF SCHOOLS

As mentioned in our introductory article about Joplin, at the time of the coming of Moffet and Sergeant the Franklin school district embraced all of the territory within the present limits of the city of Joplin and was officially known as District No. 1, township 27 and range 33.



In 1872 the board of directors of District No. 1 were John C. Cox, Jeremiah Turk and D. P. Ballard.

During the summer of 1872 a private school was established in East Joplin and called the Union High School. The school occupied the second floor of Hutchinson Hall and was taught by J. H. Burris and Mrs. Lou Cruch. It was formally opened September 9, 1872, and liberally patronized. Captain Hubbard also started a night school in Sanders Hall and enrolled a goodly number of students. The question was now agitated of building a schoolhouse and Messrs. John H. Taylor, S. B. Corn and John C. Cox offered to advance the money necessary to build an up-to-date building for that purpose in East Joplin. A special meeting of the qualified voters was called in October, bonds were voted in the sum of \$6,000 and were purchased by John H. Taylor, S. B. Corn, and John C. Cox, each taking \$2,000 at par. A contract was let for a four-room brick school and the work of building was commenced at once.

#### SCHOOLS OF WEST JOPLIN (MURPHYSBURG)

Early in the fall of 1872, the *Mining News* in a number of editorials set forth the necessity of a school organization for the portion of the town west of the Creek and the question was agitated by the leading citizens of west-town to organize a separate district. On September 20, 1872, at a meeting of the voters of West Joplin, School District No. 4, township 27 and range 33 was formally organized, the territory embracing that portion of the mother district lying west of Joplin creek. The board of directors elected at this meeting consisted of the following named gentlemen: John B. Sergeant, M. W. Stafford, C. J. G. Workizer.

Mr. Sergeant was elected president of the board and Mr. Workizer district clerk.

The board of directors of District No. 1 opposed the forming of the new district and claimed that it had not been legally organized.

The township treasurer refused to turn over to the new district its quota of the school funds and for this reason no school was maintained in West Joplin during the fall and winter of 1872-3.

#### EAST JOPLIN LITERARY SOCIETY

During the fall of 1872 a literary society was formed in East Joplin and met weekly in Hutchinson's Hall. The meetings were largely attended and did much toward elevating the literary taste of the people. The officers of the society were: Jesse Shortess, president; R. A. Benedict, vice president; Henry Houston, secretary; John W. McAntire, treasurer.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE FIRST CHURCH

The honor of organizing the first church in Joplin belongs to the Methodists. In February, 1872, Rev. M. W. F. Smith was sent to the Joplin field in the capacity of a home missionary. As mentioned be-

fore, both Joplin and Murphysburg were red-hot mining camps and everything wide open.

The reverend gentleman saw that there was great need of a church and set about to find a suitable place in which to hold a series of meetings. There were no vacant store rooms and nearly all of the residences were small, mostly two and three-room boxed houses, hastily put up to accommodate the rapidly increasing population of the place.

Hearing of the preacher and with a desire of encouraging the establishment of a church, Messrs. Bullock and Boucher offered their saloon to Rev. Smith for a Sunday service. The offer was accepted and he preached in the bar of Bullock & Boucher, his first sermon. After the first service meetings were held around at the houses of a number of religiously inclined people.

On April 14th an organization was perfected and the first Methodist Episcopal church began the crusade for a better Joplin. Among the original members of the church were O. H. Coe and wife, William Harlow and wife and Mrs. Jennie Shortness.

After the organization of the church all of the energies of the members were bent to the securing of a house of worship. Messrs. Porter & Dorsey donated a lot at the corner of Fourth and Kentucky avenue and a church home fifty by thirty feet was begun and hurriedly completed. Many of the citizens of the town (not members of the church) assisted in the work, some donating money, some lumber and others labor. The church was dedicated November 3, 1872, by the Rev. F. H. Hagerman, bishop of the diocese, the Rev. DeLamarter of Kansas City preaching the dedicatory sermon. The new church proved very popular and the Sunday school became so crowded that an afternoon school was also organized as a sort of an overflow meeting. The Sunday school in the morning was the regular school of the First Methodist Church and the afternoon meeting was a non-sectarian union Sunday school, the late W. B. McAntire was the superintendent of the union school.

#### THE CHURCH ORGAN AND THE CHOIR

When the church was first built it had neither organ nor singing books. D. K. Wenrich, the bookkeeper for Moffet & Sergeant, was asked to take charge of the music and direct that important branch of the church worship. Learning that there were no singing books belonging to the church, Mr. Wenrich ordered a number of hymnals and organized for the church a choir which furnished music, pending the arrival of the singing books for the congregation.

A committee, consisting of Captain Libby, Dr. Fannie Williams and Mr. Wenrich, was appointed to devise ways and means by which to purchase an organ for the church and the two Sunday schools. Mr. Wenrich started out with a subscription paper and in an hour secured pledges for one hundred and seventy-five dollars, not a single person refusing. The organ (said to have been the first one brought to Joplin) was purchased of W. P. Owen, then of Neosho, but later one of Joplin's substantial citizens.

## THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH

During the latter part of 1872 the Rev. J. F. Hogan, a South Methodist minister, came to Joplin and took steps toward organizing a class of that denomination, choosing East Joplin for his field and preaching his first sermon in an unfinished store building on Broadway. After considerable labor against adverse circumstances, a class was formed and at the next meeting of the conference John D. Wood, a young man of great energy, was appointed to the Joplin charge. Below are the members of the South Church when Mr. Wood began his labors: William Quick, John Allington and wife, R. A. Sterling, John Angel and wife, Mrs. Huddleston, and Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson.

Rev. Wood was a gifted speaker and, being an untiring worker, quickly built up a large congregation. He commenced his labors in the spring of 1873 and continued with the church for two years. During his ministry a church was built in East Joplin at the corner of Hill and John streets, the structure costing \$2,250. During 1874 the church sold a half interest in that building to the Presbyterians and the two denominations used it alternately until 1876, when the Presbyterians sold back their interest to the South church.

## ST. PETER'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

The work of inaugurating the Catholic church in Joplin was begun in 1872 by the Rev. Father Newman as attending missionary, with A. Chattell, John Ferguson and Barney Ferguson as members.

After a short missionary career, Rev. E. Benoneine came to the Joplin parish and labored in the field until 1876, when the Rev. Father O'Riley arrived and was assigned to this charge.

The further mention of the St. Peter's Church will be taken up during our narrative of the events of 1876 and the later 'seventies.

## THE AFRICAN M. E. CHURCH

In May, 1872, the African Methodists established a church in Joplin, the Rev. John Dorsey being its first pastor. The church did not have a home during the 'seventies, but met in a rented room, or at the houses of its members until 1881, when the congregation purchased the old Methodist church at Fourth and Kentucky.

## JOPLIN AND BAXTER STAGE AND TRANSFER LINE

In January, 1872, Messrs. William Carter and C. A. Underwood established a transfer line between Baxter Springs, Kansas, and Joplin, doing a heavy freighting business, as then all of the merchandise from Kansas City and the north came via Baxter and was freighted overland to Joplin. A stage line owned by Botkins & Company operated a stage line between these two points and it was a typical western sight to see the big four-horse overland stage roll into Joplin at noon each day, the

boot piled high with trunks, the driver sitting on the big high front seat armed in true frontier style with his trusty '45, and the stage itself crowded to its capacity with excited fortune hunters coming to the new land of lead and excitement.

#### AMUSEMENT HALLS

Early in 1872 two amusement halls were built in East Joplin, Hutchinson and the Star Concert, the latter being given over to vaudeville at-



JOPLIN IN SPRING OF '72: STAGE COACH FROM BAXTER SPRINGS

tractions and run in connection with a saloon. Hutchinson Hall was used for lectures, literary meetings and concerts.

#### RACE TRACK

During the summer of 1872 a race track was built south of the city and nearly every day during the summer and early fall there were a number of exciting races at which much money changed hands. The track was a straight one half a mile long, extending from the northeastern entrance to the cemetery in a northeasterly direction to about the site of the Byers school.

#### A UNIQUE MARRIAGE CEREMONY

One of the earliest marriages in the new town, if not the first, was that of Squire J. W. Clehouse and Miss Melvina Lane. Justice Clehouse, who was one of the justices of the peace, on the afternoon of August 10, 1872, placed in the hands of the constable a subpoena commanding a



number of people, among them the several township officials, the members of the bar and others, to appear at the restaurant and ice cream parlor of Wagstaff & Teegles for the purpose of being witnesses in the case of Clehouse vs. Lane. The witnesses suspected that the case was not one to be tried by the grave and impartial justice, but by Dan Cupid, for whisper had it that "wheresoever moved the fair, he was like her shadow there." In obedience to the summons, therefore, a large party gathered at the restaurant and at the appointed hour Judge Davis announced that they were there for the purpose of celebrating the marriage of Justice Clehouse to Miss Melvina Lane and, in the presence of the witnesses, pronounced the happy couple man and wife. After the wedding services the witnesses and court officials partook of a bountiful feast which was presided over by the happy couple and to which they did ample justice.

#### COST OF LIVING

The market reports published in the *Mining News* in November, 1872, show the cost of living to be as follows:

Flour .....	\$5.00 per 100-lb. sack
Potatoes .....	.75c per bushel
Apples .....	.75c per bushel
Butter .....	.25c per pound
Eggs .....	.20c per dozen
Sugar (whole lump) .....	\$.1.00 12-lbs.
Wood .....	\$.2.50 per cord
Coal .....	15c to 25c per bushel, or \$3.75 to \$5.00 per ton

#### VALUE OF ZINC DISCOVERED

The discovery of the value and properties of zinc blende, or "jack" as it is commonly called among the miners, was made by a German chemist in 1848. In 1858 Messrs. Mattis & Hagler of LaSalle, Illinois, erected a small experimental zinc furnace and successfully reduced a quantity of blends from the Mineral Point, Wisconsin, mines. The coming on of the war shortly after the perfection of that smelting process stopped for a time the further development of this important industry. After the war, however, the manufacture of zinc products was resumed.

In 1866 George H. Hesslemyer, late of Germany but then a resident of St. Louis, interested a number of his countrymen (among them F. W. Meister and A. W. Flohr) in a project to reduce and experiment with the blend in the dump piles of the Potosi lead mines, in Washington county, this state. A small three-retort furnace was built and successful experiments made. To Mr. Hesslemyer, therefore, belongs the credit of starting the mining and smelting of zinc in the great state of Missouri.

In November, 1866, Henry Weyman, then a young man recently graduated from a German university, came to America at the solicitation of Mr. Meister and took a position with the Potosi Zinc Works as chemist and assistant superintendent. Mr. Weyman reported to his employers at St. Louis that the cost of hauling coal to Potosi ate up the profits of the manufactured article and, at his suggestion, the plant was closed at

Potosi and rebuilt at Old Carondelet, in South St. Louis, where fuel was cheap. Zinc spelter was first used in making brass, alloy and zinc plate and, at the time of building the first plant, sold for twelve cents a pound.

Mr. Weyman continued for a time to reside at Potosi and shipped the zinc blend from that point to St. Louis. Rev. Geo. H. Williamson, of the Bethany Presbyterian church of Joplin, then a resident of Potosi, superintended the cleaning of the first car of ore shipped to the new furnace. The Coyle Brothers, later of Joplin, were Mr. Weyman's teamsters.

Mr. Hesslemyer now organized a new company, the Missouri Zinc Company, and as its agent visited Granby in 1872 for the purpose of securing zinc silicate. The miners, not knowing its value, threw it out on the dump piles as waste material, and the German ore buyer had no trouble in securing two carloads of the jack to be used in his experiments. On learning that the zinc had a value, Henry T. Blow of St. Louis, president and general manager of the Granby Company telegraphed to give no more of the black jack away. The first price paid for jack at Granby was two dollars a ton.

#### MINER'S LEARN "JACK'S" VALUE

In Joplin and at Orongo, "jack," the same as at Granby, was at first thrown out on the dump piles and no attention was paid to it; in fact, the miners thought less of it than they did of tiff, because it was not so pretty and could not even be used for ornamental purposes, but in 1872 two eminent mineralogists came to the Joplin field and told the miners and land owners that the supposed worthless "jack" was the highest grade of zinc blend. These two men were D. Bowman and Professor Swallow. Mr. Bowman came to Union City for the purpose of writing up the mining district for the *Globe Democrat* and Professor Swallow, who at that time was state geologist, was traveling through southwestern Missouri making notes relative to the geological formation and stratas of rock in Jasper and Newton counties and was compiling the data for his book, "The Rocks and Minerals of Missouri."

Mr. Bowman, by the way, made a most complimentary write-up of southwestern Missouri and was so well pleased with Joplin that he decided to cast his lot with the young town. On the completion of his newspaper report he took up his residence in Joplin and for ten years was prominently identified with the mining industry of Jasper county.

Messrs. Bowman and Swallow told the Joplin miners that the zinc industry would in time be of greater importance than the mining of lead and urged that more attention be given to its mining. At the suggestion of Mr. Bowman, Dorsey & Porter, Moffet & Sergeant and Murphy & Davis shipped to Mattis & Hagler at LaSalle, Illinois, two carloads of zinc blend and they, realizing its value, at once sent an agent into the field to purchase the "jack." The first batch of zinc shipped from Joplin brought five dollars a ton. A continuation of the zinc story will be made in our notes of 1873, at which time permanent buyers came into the field and the zinc industry became a permanency.

## CHAPTER XVIII

### JOPLIN IN 1873

UNION MOVEMENT STARTED—JOPLIN'S BIRTHDAY—THE SPIRIT OF JOPLIN  
—E. R. MOFFET—JOPLIN CITY SCRIPT—MAIN STREET GRAVELED—  
JOPLIN AND GALENA TOWNSHIPS—MINING AND SMELTING—ZINC—  
EXHIBIT AT WORLD'S FAIR, VIENNA—THE FIRST CITY ELECTION  
—OPENING OF EAST JOPLIN SCHOOLS—CHURCHES ORGANIZED DURING  
1873.

January, 1873, found the two towns without a local government, save the constable and justice of the peace, and both East and West Joplin immediately took steps towards establishing a municipality.

At a special meeting of the county court, held January 11, 1873, two towns were organized—Joplin, including the territory east of the creek, and Murphysburg, that portion which was west of the little stream that divided the two towns.

The board of trustees of Joplin (East Town) comprised the following members: John Allington, J. A. Thompson, J. W. Clehouse, Lee Taylor and P. A. Luster. John Allington was elected president of the board, and G. D. Jackson was appointed clerk, D. P. Ballard, attorney and F. L. Thompson, treasurer.

The trustees of Murphysburg were E. R. Moffet, D. M. Breazeale, J. C. Gaston, J. H. McCoy and John S. Workizer. G. D. Orner was appointed attorney, J. W. Lupton, marshal, M. W. Stafford, treasurer and C. J. G. Workizer, clerk.

#### UNION MOVEMENT STARTED

During the meantime, however, a movement was launched to secure a special charter from the legislature and incorporate the two towns as one, many of the people feeling that as in "union there is strength," so, as the interests of the two towns were similar, better results could be obtained if all worked in harmony for the same ends. Accordingly a mass meeting was called to talk over the matter of incorporation and a united and better Joplin.

Pat Murphy, the father of Murphysburg, suggested that the united city should be called Joplin, thus yielding gracefully to the east side the sentiment of a name.

The following committee was appointed to draft a proposed charter:

East Joplin—J. A. C. Thompson, John Allington, Lee Taylor, P. A. Luster, J. W. Clehouse and John H. Taylor.

Murphysburg—E. R. Moffet, J. H. McCoy, J. C. Gaston, J. S. Workizer, D. M. Breazeale and P. Murphy.

The committee employed Judge I. W. Davis to put in form their ideas relative to the government of the city and he drafted the law which gave to Joplin its corporate power.

#### JOPLIN'S BIRTHDAY

Hon. John H. Taylor and T. M. Dorsey presented the draft to the general assembly then in session and C. C. Allen of Carthage, state senator from the district, lent valuable aid in securing its passage. The bill became a law March 23, 1873, and from that date Joplin legally dates its birth.

At the date of its incorporation Joplin had approximately four thousand inhabitants. To give an idea of its continued growth, we mention that during January and February four more smelters had been built, making seventeen lead furnaces then running at full blast both day and night. Up to that time no streets had been graded, or sidewalks built, and the general contour of the town was as nature had made it. In fact, like ancient Rome, Joplin sat upon its seven hills; but here the similarity ends, for there was no great Appian way or massive palaces of marble and bronze—only the well-beaten roads which necessity had made and a thousand or more small box-houses and tents. Save the East Joplin school building, a brick store on Broadway and the unfinished Cumberland Presbyterian church, all of the buildings were of wood.

It will be seen, therefore, that the officers who were to assume the reins of government had a mighty task. They must bring order out of chaos and give to the good citizens protection; they must grade the streets, beautify the town and devise ways and means for the accomplishment of these great objects.

The first officers of the new Joplin were appointed by the governor and he very appropriately named E. R. Moffet, one of the men who sunk the first shaft, as mayor. J. A. C. Thompson, Lee Taylor, J. H. McCoy and J. C. Gaston were named as councilmen. The other officers were: J. W. Lupton, marshal; I. W. Davis, police judge; G. D. Orner, city attorney; Philo Thompson, treasurer and T. A. McClelland, city assessor. These officers held until October 14th (the second Tuesday), when the first general election occurred.

The following article, published in the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, February 14th, very correctly presents the condition in Joplin as they existed at the time of the incorporation:

#### THE SPIRIT OF JOPLIN.

The memorial which has been prepared for presentation to the Legislature, to secure the incorporation of the towns of Murphysburg and Joplin, illustrates better than any thing else the rapid development of the lead-mining district of which these towns are the center. Murphysburg and Joplin, as has heretofore



been explained, are two thriving hamlets situated in the southwestern part of Jasper county. They are divided only by a narrow gulch, the valley of a mineral-washing stream, and for all practical purposes are one town. Jealousies over the name, and a struggle for priority of location, have, however, divided them, and to some extent injured their prosperity. By an overwhelming vote, these differences have now been buried, and as soon as the Legislature responds favorably to the petition for incorporation—which we hope will be at an early day—there will be one city with a single and harmonious government. Within the Joplin mining district, which is less than two miles square, there has, in short space of fifteen months, grown up a settlement of more than five thousand permanent inhabitants, besides a large transient population. The reason of the rapid growth of the towns appears from the fact that, while the entire amount of pig lead received in St. Louis for the year 1872, from Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa and all Missouri, except Joplin, was about \$19,000,000, the yield of Joplin alone was \$6,000,000, or nearly one-third of the entire receipts. In addition to this, new mines are being opened, old ones worked deeper, and richer and more extensive deposits of the ore are being found. It is therefore reasonably expected that the products of these mines for the year 1873 will reach from \$16,000,000, to \$18,000,000, which will be a yield of at least one-half of the lead shipped to St. Louis, the great lead market of the United States, from four of the largest lead-producing States in the Union. Outside of this famous "Joplin district," and within a radius of five miles, taking the two towns as the center, there are not less than ten mines which lead is now being taken in paying quantities.

This exhibit is not only interesting as an indication of what has already been accomplished, but is of incalculable worth as an example to other localities where the natural advantages are equally as great, but which lack the pluck and the industry that have been the conspicuous characteristics of the Joplinites. The latter have worked under more than ordinary disadvantages. The tract is shut in from the railroads and from the productive gardens by a wide belt of gloomy, sterile land. The people have lacked capital all along, and they lack it now. They need it to open the yet untouched mineral land; they need money to bring in more steam engines for pumping purposes, to enable poor miners, who have rich prospects, to work their claims to an advantage below the water line; they should have and at once, a white-lead factory in the midst of the mines to consume the lead produced to save the enormous sum annually paid for transportation; they need ready funds to erect dwellings for labors, and to carry out a dozen other enterprises, for the lack of which the city suffers. But while they have lacked the capital they have possessed abundant nerve, and this has pulled them through. It is reasonable to expect that within a few years Joplin will be one of the wealthiest communities in Missouri.

A score of other counties in this State need be Joplinized. There is lead elsewhere, there is coal ready to be mined, there are acres upon acres of iron waiting to be coaxed from its half-hiding places, and the inexhaustless deposits of rarer ores which would richly repay development.

E. R. Moffet, the first mayor of Joplin, at the date of his induction into the executive chair was in the prime of life. He was a man of vigorous action and thought and naturally acted quickly. Having seen the city grow from its infancy, he was greatly attached to its people and its industries. He strove to execute the law in such a manner that the town would be morally uplifted, and, at the same time appreciating the conditions which surround the mining industry, tempered justice with mercy. During his administration the foundation was laid for a number of public improvements, among them the organization of a fire department, the establishment of a system of street improvements and the de-

vising of a plan for raising public funds, which was perhaps at this time

After passing ordinances relative to disturbances of the peace and general welfare of the city, the first great task was to provide for its finances.

#### JOPLIN CITY SCRIPT

When the new city government was instituted, it had, of course, no treasury. There could not, until almost a year, be a collection of any of the taxes which would be assessed during the succeeding summer, and there was nothing immediately in sight in the way of revenue excepting licenses which could be collected from the merchants and the fines which would be assessed, from time to time, against the offenders of the law.

For the two-fold purpose of raising money to meet the immediate expense necessary to carry out the functions of local government and also to serve as a medium of exchange to replace the United States currency



SAMPLE SCRIPT ISSUED BY JOPLIN IN 1873

which was rapidly going into hiding on account of the panic which was paralyzing the business interest of the county, the city council issued ten thousand dollars in city script and used this in paying its obligations. This substitute for money passed readily among the miners and business men of Joplin and was accepted at the Joplin financial institutions and big mining concerns at par, although the banks of Carthage, Baxter and other nearby towns refused to take it.

The council had not full authority of law to issue this script, but the necessities of the hour gave it a semi-legal force and a full moral sanction and after the panic the city redeemed every dollar of its outstanding, make-shift money.

#### MAIN STREET IN WEST JOPLIN GRAVELED

The first street in Joplin to be worked was Main street in West Joplin. During the summer of 1873 the property owners petitioned the city council to grade and gravel Main street. The work was paid for by pop-

ular subscriptions, Messrs. P. Murphy and E. D. Porter each giving one hundred dollars toward the enterprise.

#### JOPLIN AND GALENA TOWNSHIPS

In May, 1873, the county court redistricted the county into municipal townships and the city of Joplin was divided, East Joplin being in Dubuque, later Joplin township, and West Joplin in Galena township. The dividing line between the two townships was the alley east of Main street in West Joplin. This arrangement caused great excitement in West Joplin, for the reason that at least one-third of the population of that place was in the east side township. To settle the controversy the county court visited Joplin and, after viewing the situation and seeing the conditions, changed the boundary line to Joplin creek.

#### MINING AND SMELTING

During 1873 seventeen lead smelters were operated, three of them being neutral smelters purchasing the lead in the open market. The following were the principal smelters: Moffet & Sergeant, Joplin Creek valley.

Davis & Murphy, A and Joplin; then a well defined valley and on either side a branch, which after a good rain swelled to the dignity of a creek.

J. M. & S. Co.'s smelters, Kansas City Bottom; just east of the big hill where now is the residence of Chris Guergerich.

Corn & Thompson, neutral smelter; furnace and railway at East Joplin.

Hannibal L. & Z. Co., at the head of Pitcher ditch.

Dorsey & Porter, at foot of Swindle hill.

Granby smelter, Lone Elm.

The Pitcher Furnace between Swindle hill and Parr hill.

The Lone Elm Mining Co., smelter; now the White Lead Works.

West Joplin L. & Z. Co.; afterward the zinc works.

In the fall of 1873 there was a slight decline in the ore market, due to the panic and general business depression, and lead took a slump from five to seven cents per pound. This was a great blow to the miners and, with the high cost of living, royalty and pump rent, many miners threatened to quit.

The Pitchers were the first to relieve the situation and, with the far-sighted and liberal business policy which has characterized them in their dealing with the miners from the first, they reduced the royalty on their land and pumped the water from the mines free. The other companies quickly following suit and in an incredibly short time mining conditions were normal and the work of developing the district went merrily on.

#### ZINC

Early in the spring of 1873 C. F. Mugge, zinc buyer of LaSalle, Illinois, visited Joplin and urged the miners to pay more attention to the

mining of "jack" and to save that which was being thrown out on the dump piles. He bought a small quantity of zinc at \$5.00 per ton, but the price paid was a small inducement to the miners and little attention was paid to it until the fall of the year when Chris Guenerich, representing Matthiessen & Hegeler, and John Immel, agent for the Illinois Zinc Company, appeared in the field and a sharp competition for the blende was begun. Mr. Guenerich raised the price of zinc for first-class ore to nine dollars per ton and immediately the jack in the dump piles, which before had "looked like thirty cents," figuratively speaking, now was much sought for and it may properly be said with the coming of Messrs. Guenerich & Immel the zinc industry of Jasper county came into prominence.

#### THE BANK OF JOPLIN

In May, 1873, Messrs. Moffet & Sergeant and W. F. Botkins, a banker at Baxter Springs, organized the Bank of Joplin, E. R. Moffet was chosen as president and W. F. Botkins, cashier. Ralph Muir, the ice-man, was the first depositor. This bank continued in business until the early 'eighties, when the Miners' Bank absorbed the holdings of this institution.

The establishment of the Bank of Joplin gave to the west side better facilities for the transaction of business and at this particular time played a most important part, for it saved Joplin from the financial disaster which swept the country generally in the panic of 1873. The Bank of Joplin accepted at par the script which the city had issued and also established a sort of a credit due bill which served as a medium of exchange. To illustrate: When the money went out of sight the companies were forced to give due bills in part payment for the ore; these due bills were accepted as cash at the bank, and on these credits, drafts were sold, checks honored and the business of the community carried on.

Another simple medium of facilitating trade was as follows: The miners had the lead and at this time the ore had a fixed value, five cents per pound. Every merchant had a lead box in his store and accepted small quantities of lead ore in payment for groceries, clothing and other necessities. To illustrate: Mr. Jones, a miner, wanted to buy half a dollar's worth of sugar; he brought ten pounds of mineral to the store and thus paid for it. The grocer dumped this, with other mineral, into his ore box, and when he had 1,000 pounds or more sold it to one of the smelters and received in payment a check on the bank which he deposited and took credit for; and thus it happened that while all over the state and country fortunes were swept away, Joplin grew and prospered.

#### EXHIBIT AT WORLD'S FAIR, VIENNA

In March, 1873, Joplin was honored by the imperial government of Austria with an invitation to make an exhibit of its mineral products at the World's Fair to be held at its capital, Vienna.



Hon. John H. Taylor was selected by the United States government to represent it in the capacity of one of the commissioners representing the mining industry, and gathered from the district a fine display of mineral specimens which were sent to the fair, but owing to the illness of his mother Mr. Taylor did not attend in person.

#### THE FIRST CITY ELECTION

On Tuesday, October 14, 1873, the first election for officers under the new charter took place, and, although non-political, was hotly contested, some thirty candidates being in the field for the several offices to be filled. In the early days of the city, and until 1889, the political parties did not make nominations. There was an open field and the people voted for their personal friends, or for the man who, in their judgment, was best fitted for the place.

The contest for mayor was very close and resulted in the election of Lee Taylor. Mr. Taylor was a mining superintendent and exceedingly popular with the people of East Joplin. Mr. Moffet was also much beloved by the people of the west side. East Joplin voted almost solidly for Taylor and West Joplin almost solidly for Moffet. Lone Elm decided the fate of the day by casting a few more votes for Taylor than Moffet, and thus according to him the honor of being the first elected mayor of Joplin. Mr. Taylor made a vigorous executive and gave much of his time to the city. During the troublesome times of the Lupton riot, he stood firm, and, emulating the general he followed during the Civil war, stood like a stone-wall and held back the angry mob. Business conditions arose during the latter part of his administration which demanded his full time and he resigned before the close of the term. Councilman J. H. McCoy, of the Second ward, filled out the unexpired term.

J. W. McAntire, the city attorney, was elected by the largest majority of any of the candidates, defeating four aspirants for the place.

An incident is told relative to this campaign which shows how the miners of the early day, and for that matter those of the present, always help the young men of the legal profession who are struggling to rise. When J. W. McAntire first came to Joplin he took desk-room with D. P. Ballard and attended to the little odds and ends of the law business which came to the office. When East Joplin was organized as a town in January, 1873, many of the friends of J. W. McAntire, then just admitted to the bar and a promising young lawyer, suggested his name for attorney of the new town and Mr. Ballard, in whose office Mr. McAntire had his desk, volunteered to present Mr. McAntire's name to the town board. With that modesty which had always characterized Mr. McAntire, he kept in the background and as the politicians say "put himself in the hands of his friends." When the board met Mr. Ballard suggested Mr. McAntire's name, but when one of the board called attention to Mr. McAntire's youth and inexperience, in place of setting forth the energy and studiousness of his protegee, he arose and said it was true that Mr. McAntire had no experience and was as yet an "untried neophyte" and

that if the board thought, in their wisdom, that an older head was more to be desired, he would take the appointment.

The next day when Mr. McAntire learned how his friend had taken from him the plum, he moved his office to another building and began the practice of law on his own hook and depended entirely on his own resources. When the story went round among the boys John McAntire's stock rose and likewise his law practice, and so at the election of 1873 the citizens, by an overwhelming vote, expressed their confidence in the young attorney.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodge, to which Mr. McAntire belonged, also voted for him almost to a man.

#### OPENING OF EAST JOPLIN SCHOOLS

The new schoolhouse was completed the middle of January, 1873, and was formally opened and dedicated January 21st by appropriate exercises. G. D. Jackson acted as chairman of the meeting and after invocation by Rev. Gutton, agent of the Congregational Home Missionary Society, remarks were made by U. B. Webster (county superintendent,) J. A. C. Thompson, John H. Taylor, John C. Cox, D. P. Ballard and Professor Dickey, of the Carthage schools, who made the address of the evening. S. B. Ormsby, who had been selected by the board to be principal of the school, read an original poem depicting the life and activities of the mining town. A supper which was served by the ladies of East Joplin, for the purpose of purchasing desks for the school, netted \$102.50.

#### CHURCHES ORGANIZED DURING 1873

On Sunday, February 2, 1873, Rev. Gutton, of the Congregational Church Extension Society, preached in Joplin and began laying the foundation for a Congregational church. Mr. Gutton labored in and around Joplin the greater part of the year, preaching at the homes of members of his congregation or in public halls when they could be secured. A church organization was not effected, however, until 1876, a mention of which will be made in the chapter on the Middle 'Seventies.

The First Presbyterian church of Joplin was organized in East Joplin in December, 1873. The officiating minister was the Rev. Benjamin F. Powelson. The organization was effected in a little hall located on Mineral street. There were eleven corporate members of whom we are able at this writing to name the following: John H. Taylor, Mr. J. W. and Mrs. Della Gordon, Mr. H. A. and Mrs. M. A. Clippenger, Mrs. A. V. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Adkins.

Mrs. A. V. Allen is the only charter member now alive, and has been a most faithful worker in the church. For twenty-five consecutive years, save one, she was the president of the Ladies Society and during the thirty-eight years of the church's existence has been a regular attendant at its services.

John H. Taylor did much for the church in a financial way, and when the clouds hung dark over the little congregation always found a way to tide them over the rough seas of financial disaster.

The minister placed in charge of the new church was 'Squire Glascock. He was commissioned by the Board of Home Missions and occupied the place for about three years.

About the time of the organization of the Presbyterian Society the people of the Methodist Church South built a house of worship in East Joplin at the corner of John and Hill streets. Not being able to pay for it, Mr. Taylor bought a half interest and presented it to the Presbyterian church.

The two denominations occupied the building jointly, holding services alternate Sundays until 1876.

The church building, which was used jointly by the South Methodists and Presbyterians, was a very pretty little church and stood on the northern slope of the East Joplin hill on John street. It was furnished with pews and appropriate church furniture. After the Cumberland Presbyterian church disposed of its edifice to the West Joplin school district, most of the members of that denomination joined the first church and affiliated with them.

## CHAPTER XIX

### JOPLIN IN THE MIDDLE 'SEVENTIES

SALOONS IN 1875—SCHIFFERDICKER'S GARDEN IN 1876—THE LUPTON RIOT—BLOWING UP OF HANNIBAL LEAD AND ZINC COMPANY'S PLANT—CITY ELECTION OF OCTOBER, 1874—PATRICK MURPHY—TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS IN 1874—DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN NOVEMBER, 1874—THE JOPLIN HOTEL—COURT OF COMMON PLEAS—LAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION—JOPLIN'S FIRST CIRCUS—FIRST THEATRE—FOURTH OF JULY, 1875—HUGH DYER & COMPANY, BOILER WORKS—HACK LINES TO CARTHAGE AND NEOSHO—BOARD OF TRADE—FIRE DEPARTMENT—CITY ELECTION, 1875—EAST JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY—BRUCE YOUNGER—JOPLIN AT THE CENTENNIAL—CITY ELECTION, CENTENNIAL—F. E. WILLIAMS—PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, IN 1876—SOCIETY MASK-BALL DECEMBER 28, 1876—THE RISELING BUILDING—THE EAST JOPLIN SCHOOL—THE WEST JOPLIN SCHOOLS—LONE ELM SCHOOL—THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH—CATHOLIC CHURCH—THE BAPTISTS—BUILDING OF THE TABERNACLE—FIRST CHURCH WEDDING—THE FRATERNITIES—JOPLIN TURNVEREIN GERMANIA.

The years from 1874 to 1876, inclusive, form a distinct period, for during that time there was a steady and continuous growth, and these three years may properly be styled the "palmy days" of Joplin's pioneer period.

Although the organization of the city government had brought the Reign of Terror to a close, Joplin was still about the liveliest place between the Mississippi river and the Rocky mountains and, while the city was comparatively free from murders and robberies, about everything else was permitted.

#### SALOONS IN 1875

We note in an issue of the *Joplin Mining News*, published during the summer of 1875, that the city had seventy-five saloons open both day and night and in most of them a full orchestra giving free concerts every evening, with matinees Wednesday and Sunday afternoons. The following are the names of some of the popular bars: Healthwood bar. Board of Trade, and the Steam Boat saloons, the Golden Gate, Miners' Drift, Bullock & Boucher's, the Bon Ton, the Palace, and the Brick Hotel bar.

One of the popular places was Blackwells bar, and there something



new and exciting was always being pulled off. In November, 1876, Mr. Blackwell arranged for the entertainment of his patrons, a fight between a Cinnamon bear which was brought up from the hills of Arkansas and six blooded bull-dogs. One thousand two hundred people witnessed the fight which was won by the bear.

#### SCHIFFERDICKER'S GARDEN

On March 7, 1876, Schifferdicker's Garden, a popular picnic ground and pleasure resort was opened with a large attendance. The garden was located on Turkey creek about a quarter of a mile east of Castle Rock and was a most attractive natural wild. Joplin celebrated the Fourth there in 1876.

The population of Joplin, based on the census of the three school districts taken in June, 1876, was 10,375, and it is probable that during



SCHIFFERDICKER'S GARDEN IN 1876

the summer of that year the place was at the height of its early-day prosperity.

Excepting in East Joplin and West Joplin from First to Sixth streets, where the houses were built with some regularity, the majority of the houses were built in the Creek valley and around the mining activities at Lone Elm, Swindle hill and what is now North Heights, and all during the period mentioned houses were going up at the rate of fifty a week.

The author remembers walking over Lone Elm one Sunday in the early part of August, 1876, and noting the activities of the day. Returning to that portion of the town, the following Sunday, he counted with his father one hundred new houses that had been built during the week. It must be kept in mind that the small box-house of that day did not require as much time to erect as the cottage and bungalow of today.

The *Joplin Daily News* of August 1, 1876, says that "there are now one thousand mines in the Joplin District being operated, and houses are being built at the rate of fifty a day. The weekly pay-roll for miners, smelters, teamsters, mechanics, etc., aggregates forty thousand dollars per week."

#### THE LUPTON RIOT

During the month of May, 1874, Police Judge Jacob Hogle filed a charge with the city council, accusing the city marshal, J. W. Lupton, with malfeasance in office, setting up in his complaint that the marshal had arrested certain people who had not been brought before the judge for trial, and had collected from them money in the way of costs which had not been accounted for. The people referred to were gamblers and women of ill-repute. Mr. Lupton denied the charge. The council, sitting as a court, removed him from office and appointed W. B. McCracken as marshal in his stead. Mr. Lupton denied the right of the council to try the case and refused to vacate the office.

Mr. McCracken, who had been appointed by the council to act as marshal, with a view of taking possession of the city jail, went to the holdover and began trying to pick the lock. Mr. Lupton, who happened along about that time, asked him what he doing and Mr. McCracken replied that he had been appointed marshal and was there trying to open the jail door. Mr. Lupton said that he need not go to that trouble, that he would open the door for him; thereupon he took from his pocket a large brass key which opened the outside door to the calaboose. Opening the door, he shoved Mr. McCracken inside and locked the door again, with the newly appointed marshal as a prisoner. After being in jail for a few hours, Mr. McCracken told Mr. Lupton if he would let him out that he would resign; and after being let out of the jail tendered his resignation to the mayor, who accepted it. The city council in special session appointed W. S. Norton as marshal.

Mr. Norton was a determined man and equally as muscular and athletic as Lupton and immediately proceeded to take possession of the jail. Taking two deputies with him to the jail, he proceeded to remove the hinges from the door and, leaving the two officers there to guard the building, he took the door to a blacksmith shop in East Joplin and had new hinges and hasps made. While he was away Mr. Lupton, with two friends, swooped down on the officers left in charge and overpowered them. Upon returning from the blacksmith shop and perceiving what had been done, Mr. Norton drew his revolver, a '45 Navy, and started toward Lupton. Mr. Lupton quickly drew his pistol and started to meet Norton. At this juncture, Judge Davis, of the common pleas court, rushed between the combatants and "commanded peace in the name of the state" and bloodshed was averted.

Then the council through the city attorney, instituted ouster proceedings against Mr. Lupton in the Jasper county court of common pleas at Carthage, and R. A. Cameron, acting as special judge, decided

in favor of the city and issued a writ of ouster against Mr. Lupton, who at once appealed the case to the circuit court.

That night a large body of Mr. Lupton's friends gathered in front of the city jail and were about to take possession. The crowd was in an ugly mood and it looked for a time as if there was going to be a battle between the ex-marshal's numerous friends and the law-and-order posse which was assembled at the city hall.

Among those who were in the law-and-order party were P. Murphy, E. D. Porter, C. J. Workizer and others, armed for the fray and there to stand by the mayor and preservation of the city hall.

At the suggestion of City Attorney McAntire, the riot act was read to the angered mob and after a speech from the city attorney, in which he informed the people of the finding of the court, they disbursed, but not until D. P. Ballard, the attorney for Lupton, had corroborated the statement of Mr. McAntire.

The crisis came the next day, June 4th. In the meantime Mr. Lupton returned from Carthage, where he had filed his appeal bond, and announced to his friends that the case was not disposed of and a mass meeting of his friends was called for 5 o'clock in the afternoon to pass resolutions condemning the city council and also to retake the city jail. The people stood around on the streets and discussed the matter and it looked as if trouble could not be averted.

Mr. McAntire, the city attorney, told the people that the appeal of Mr. Lupton did not alter the matter; that the finding of the court would stand until reversed by the higher court and urged them to go to their homes and abide by the law. Mr. Lupton's friends insisted that the court had not issued the writ of ouster, but that it was held in abeyance pending the trial in the higher court. Mr. McAntire then asked the leaders if they would desist, if he brought them the records of the decree from Carthage, and they said, "Yes." It was then past one o'clock and a trip to Carthage and return must be made in less than four hours.

Daniel Collins, the liveryman, said he had a team that could make the trip, and Wm. Byers, H. Gildmacher, P. Murphy and others volunteered to pay for the team should the hard drive on that day (the thermometer stood at 90°) kill the horses.

Mr. McAntire made the trip to Carthage in one hour and ten minutes and, after securing a certified copy of the decree, started for Joplin, making the return-trip in one hour and twenty minutes, but in time to save the day, for the meeting had just organized. Driving up to the city hall and throwing the lines to a friend in the crowd, which was gathered in front of the city building, he rushed up-stairs to the meeting. When he entered the door someone called "Have you got the papers?" Pulling the legal document from his pocket, he walked up to the speaker's stand and said "Here they are," and, realizing that they had lost, one of the Lupton men moved an adjournment and the deposed marshal agreed to await the result of the appeal. Thus ended



the riot and Mr. McAntire's ride went down in the early history of the town as the event which averted a crisis.\*

#### BLOWING UP OF THE HANNIBAL L. & Z. COMPANY'S PLANT

As mentioned before in our zinc story in the early mining operations, no attention was paid to jack. When it began to have a value, a difficulty arose as to just how the zinc ore should be sold; also to whom the zinc in the dump piles belonged.

The early contracts made between the land owners and miners made no mention of zinc. The method of ascertaining the value of lead was as follows: When lead spelter on the St. Louis market sold for seven cents the raw material in Joplin was worth twenty-five dollars a thousand. In this way the price to be paid for lead at any time was fixed and it was a very easy matter to figure the royalty and the price according to this fixed rule; but with the zinc included it had a different base. The several buyers paid for each lot what it seemed to be worth, taking into consideration the market and grade of mineral and so there was no fixed rule to determine its value. The price paid at different mines also varied.

The miners contended that the zinc should be neutral and sold by the miner in the open market and to the best advantage, the miner being the judge of the time and place to sell. The land owners held that selling indiscriminately jeopardized the royalty for the reason that a correct record of the sales could not be kept unless the sales were handled from the general office. This difference between the miners and the land owners resulted in a riot which lasted for three days, during which time the men crowded the streets and held numerous little meetings to discuss the proposition and ended in the destruction of the Furnace of the Hannibal Lead and Zinc Company in the Picher field on July 20, 1874.

About two o'clock in the morning of that day a party of forty or fifty masked men made their appearance at the furnace and ordered the men to gether up their personal effects. After escorting the working force to a place of safety, a mile or so away, a large quantity of powder was placed in the building and an attached fuse lighted, when the maskers fled. About half past two the charge exploded, blowing the building and machinery to atoms and setting the debris on fire. The explosion awakened the people and the hook and ladder truck hurried to the scene, but no good could be accomplished, as the furnace was a mass of ruins. Some twenty odd citizens were arrested for complicity in the act, but no convictions were ever made, the evidence against the accused parties being insufficient.

#### CITY ELECTIONS OF OCTOBER, 1874

The city election following the Lupton trouble was an exciting one, great interest centering in the marshal contest. The officers elected to

\*Mr. Lupton won in the higher court and received from the city the fees which the marshal's office had earned during the time he was deprived of the office, and at the city election in October following he was again elected to the position by a large majority.



serve Joplin for the next year were: Mayor, Patrick Murphy; councilmen, F. E. Williams, Monroe Clark, P. L. Swartz, John Lewis, T. W. Cunningham, and J. A. Taylor; marshal, J. W. Lupton; city attorney, John C. Trigg; treasurer, A. E. Blackwell.

The following were the appointed officers\*: City clerk, J. A. Reed; assessor and collector, T. A. McClelland; fire warden, J. W. McClehour; street commissioner, J. C. Gaston.

#### PATRICK MURPHY

Patrick Murphy, the fourth mayor of Joplin, was a native of Ireland and at the time of his election was thirty-five years of age, having been born January 6, 1839.

Mr. Murphy came to America at the age of ten and was brought up on a farm in Bucks county, Pennsylvania. In 1859 he crossed the plains and in August, 1860, struck a fine gold prospect in Colorado. After the war he engaged in the freight business and operated a large overland traffic. During his experience as a freighter he crossed the plains thirty-one times. Quitting the frontier in 1866, he came to Jasper county, settling at Carthage where he engaged in merchandising in partnership with W. P. Davis. Mr. Murphy was married at Carthage, November 19, 1868, to Miss Belle Workizer. His coming to Joplin and his early connections with the history of Joplin have already been mentioned.

Mr. Murphy was an exceptional man and perhaps did more for West Joplin than any other one man, and his liberal policy of disposing of town lots, his public spirit and large confidence in Joplin made him a fitting executive, so that his administration was marked by innumerable acts of civic progression. The late Judge Gaston, shortly before his death, in speaking of him to the author, thus describes Patrick Murphy: "He was a prince of good fellows and generous to a fault."

It would hardly be justice to the part Mr. Murphy played in Joplin's history to pass his name with a mere formal notice, and in order to show the character of the man and his great influence in the community, we will relate here the following stories which show him as he was in private life.

During his mining career Mr. Murphy took a lease on the Gordon land and was developing those diggings. One day Mr. Murphy came to the shaft where two men were working and calling to them said: "Well, boys, how is the ground looking?" "All right, Mr. Murphy, we think we shall strike good dirt soon, but if it is all the same to you we want to lay off for a couple of weeks and make a little grub stake, our money has given out."

Taking two ten dollar bills from his pocket, he dropped them down in the mine and said: "If that will help out, I'd like to have you work on a little longer." They did, and the next week struck it big, making

\*Under the old city charter the police judge held for two years and Judge Hogle held over. Before his term of office was ended he died, and D. J. M. Loop was appointed to fill out the unexpired term.

for themselves a little fortune and for the big-hearted son of Erin a nice sum in royalty.

In the Leadville Hollow items, published in the *Daily News* in August, 1874, there was the following little comment about Mr. Murphy: "Pat Murphy favored the Shakerage Mine with a visit today and all of the miners feel encouraged by his words of comfort and cheer.

"We appreciate advice from him because it comes from a man who had made his way up in the world. But the best thing about Pat Murphy is he acts the same as his words.

"A few kind words followed by a little assistance has put many a miner on his feet, and if Joplin had more Pat Murphys this place would not only have the best miners in the state, but the happiest and most contented set of people in the whole land."

The above compliment was well deserved and shows how very popular he was with the miners of Joplin.

#### TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS IN 1874

The township elections held in Joplin and Galena townships in April, 1874, to elect township officers under the new township organization act resulted as follows.

Joplin township: Justice of the Peace—L. R. Thomas.

Constables—O. B. Hamlin and W. A. Lamkin.

Trustee—J. C. Orner.

Collector—W. H. Kilgore.

Assessor.—J. M. Pickett.

The vote of the First Ward School District was as follows: Commissioner—McPherson, 57; Webster, 52; Ormsby, 4. For director, Thomas and Ballard were elected.

Galena township: Trustee—J. B. Sargeant.

Clerk—J. W. McAntire.

Assessor—D. K. Wehrich.

Collector—J. G. Mathews.

Justices of the Peace—Geo. Orear, and Jerry Clark.

#### DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN NOVEMBER, 1874

On the morning of November 4, 1874, at about 2 o'clock, a most destructive fire broke out in East Joplin in a small shed in the rear of a bakery on East Main street. The alarm was given and the citizens of both towns rushed to the scene of the conflagration and the fire company, with the new Babcock engine and the hook and ladder truck, hurried to the scene, but with all its heroic work it was unable to check the fire, as it had gained too great a headway and in less than two hours the entire block between John and Galena avenues was swept away, the loss being estimated at \$75,000 and no insurance. The block was at once rebuilt.\*

\*In justice to the fire department, it must be mentioned that all of the fire fighting apparatus was drawn by members of the volunteer companies and citizens who came to their assistance, and it will readily be seen that by the time a company could be assembled the fire was well under headway; and pulling the big chemical engine and hook and ladder truck up the east town hill was no small task.

## THE JOPLIN HOTEL

During the fall of 1874 J. H. McCoy interested a number of the leading citizens in a project to build an up-to-date hotel, and the Joplin Hotel Company was organized. Work on the foundation was begun in November, 1874, and the building, a three-story brick was ready for occupancy the middle of April, 1875.

J. M. Maderie, Sr., was the first manager of the hostelry and it was formally opened to the public with a grand reception and ball. On Sunday, April 24th, the first Sabbath after the opening there were one hundred and thirty-five guests for dinner.

The old Joplin Hotel was a historic building and until 1906, when it was torn down to make way for the Connor, it was the rallying place of all the old-timers.



THE JOPLIN HOTEL.

The building of this hotel made Fourth and Main streets the center of the business activities of the early day. The old-time Joplinites always spoke of the Joplin House as the "Brick Hotel." In the city elections of the 'seventies and 'eighties the "Brick Hotel Ring" was a political bugaboo.

The other popular hotels of the middle 'seventies were the Occidental, Broadway and Galena; the Southwestern, the Bateman, the McFall (later the St. James), the American House, both First and Main; and the Pacific House, Second and Virginia. The Pacific was a forty-room house and was the second hotel in size.

## THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

By act of the legislature passed February 5, 1874, a court of common pleas was established in the city of Joplin. This court had the following jurisdiction within the limits of Joplin and Galena townships:

First, original and concurrent jurisdiction in all cases, both law and equity, with the circuit court of Jasper county, Missouri (except where the title to real estate was involved), and concurrent jurisdiction with justices of the peace, except where they have exclusive jurisdiction; second, power to issue injunctions, above named exceptions applying, and to hear and determine matters of habeas corpus the same as circuit courts; also exclusive appellate jurisdiction from Joplin police court, and in case of appeals from justices of Joplin and Galena township. At this time there were four terms of the Jasper county common pleas court held at Carthage, and three extra terms for the transaction of probate business. Galen Spencer was elected judge of the court and served until January 26, 1875, when the legislature passed an act abolishing the court and providing that three terms a year of the common pleas court which was called at Carthage should be held at Joplin, and three terms of said court at Carthage, making six terms a year in the county. This act, abolishing the Joplin court, also ordered the clerk (the judge of this court was by the act creating the court made, the judge, ex-officio clerk his court) of the Joplin court to transfer to the clerk of the Jasper county common pleas court the records of the Joplin court. Both the Joplin court and the Jasper county courts of common pleas were courts of record.

In 1877 the legislature passed an act establishing a circuit court at Joplin each year, in June and December, and two at Carthage, in September and March. The circuit clerk has since kept a deputy at Joplin and keeps an office there.

#### THE LAND OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

March 20, 1875, the smelters and land owners of Joplin formed an association for their mutual protection and mutual interests. The following were the officers: John B. Sergeant, president; John H. Taylor, secretary; W. P. Davis, treasurer.

The formation of this association was misunderstood by the miners, many of them believing that it was formed in the nature of a trust and with a view of crushing the labor interests, although such was not the case. But the agitation continued and did not abate until the McCorele Smelter in East Joplin was burned, supposedly because of the formation of the Land Owners' Association.

#### JOPLIN'S FIRST CIRCUS

In June, 1875, Dan Rice's circus showed in Baxter Springs. A number of Joplin people went over to see the performance, among them Daniel Collins, the Broadway liveryman. The show was on Saturday and at the close of the afternoon performances Mr. Collins presented to the management a proposition to take the aggregation of animals and all to Joplin for a performance the next day, Sunday afternoon. The proposition did not look good to the showman. The performances could not



be advertised and it was necessary to take the tents, horses and animal cages overland to Joplin, fording two streams, Spring river and Shoal creek, and then return in time to load the show on the cars and make the next town in time for a show Monday; but he said in a joking way to Mr. Collins, if he would like to undertake the venture, that he would rent him the show for a day.

Mr. Collins knew a good thing when he saw it and accepted the proposition, agreeing to deliver the show in Baxter by 3 o'clock A. M. Monday and to pay all the performers the extra salary for the trip to Joplin. After the night performance, the tents were torn down and the entire aggregation started overland for Joplin, arriving in the mining metropolis about nine o'clock in the morning. It was not necessary to advertise the show, for in those days business houses were all open until noon on Sunday and some of them all day, and the streets were crowded with the miners and their families doing their week's trading. So when the red wagons began rolling down West Main street and heading for a vacant place between the two towns, half the population which thronged the street followed the circus to the show grounds and watched with interest the putting up of the big tent.

Everything was in readiness by 1 o'clock and the ticket wagon opened. The circus, which, by the way, was a good one showed to an audience which taxed the capacity of the tent, and Mr. Collins reaped a rich reward for his show venture. After the performance the tents were again struck and the aggregation returned to Baxter in time to load and make the next town on schedule time. The big house at this performance established Joplin's reputation as a show town, and each season since some one or more of the great traveling shows has visited "the city that Jack built."

#### JOPLIN'S FIRST THEATER

During 1875 a company was organized which erected the Joplin Theater building, on Main street between Fourth and Fifth where now stands the Bartlett building. The theater was a one-story structure forty by one hundred feet, and built out of oak lumber according to the prevailing style of architecture of that day, a plain box-house arrangement. The stage, however, was arranged with four different settings.

1875-7 were the palmy days of this theater. Most play houses have a general fixed kind of amusement and have a reputation for the presentation of some kind of play, such as tragedy, comedy, melodrama, vaudeville, etc., but the Joplin was confined to no one class of amusements. Some very good attractions were presented, but the amusements for the most part were designed to please the floating population which made life in Joplin one constant round of excitement.

The following interview, published in the *Kansas City Globe* in March, 1890, gives an idea of the unique manner in which the Joplin

miners overcame the money question, following the panic of 1873, and also the popularity of the "show" in Joplin during the pioneer days.

"Way back in the 'seventies," says J. J. Lodge, of the Midland Theatre, "I was traveling through the southwest with Zera Seeman and Kit Clark. I had him out, and we were giving a gift show. Seeman did the sleight-of-hand and magic business, and we gave away every night gold watches, furniture, etc. During our trip we made a week's stand at Joplin. I lost a great opportunity to make a fortune prospecting, or rather digging a test shaft. The capital of the prospectors had given out and they wanted me to grub-stake them. I didn't think there was anything in it, but before we left town they had struck rich mineral and both made a fortune.

"Well, that's neither here nor there. The strange thing about our Joplin engagement was the kind of admission fees we took at the door. The miners would come up wheeling a little barrow of ore, and ask if that would let them in. We had been told before what to expect, and had a man there to examine the dirt. If he said it was all right the barrow load would be taken around to the back of the building and dumped and the fellow who brought it got an admission check. When we got ready to come away we sold the pile that had accumulated, and it brought us a good deal more than the admission at regular prices would. That is one of the experiences managers in this day don't often have."

#### FOURTH OF JULY, 1875

The Fourth of July, 1875, was again celebrated by Joplin at the Grand Falls and the celebration was unique in its character. The games and amusements were fashioned after a tournament of the day "when knighthood was in flower."

A number of young men organized for the occasion a company of knights and they, in the day of Richard Coeur-de-Lion, contested for the honors of the day.

The gallant knights carried lances and to determine their superiority rode at full pace past a certain spot where a ring was suspended and threw the lance which was carried through the ring; that is, they threw the lance at the ring and the knight who won the most points in this contest was voted the champion and was privileged to name the Queen of Festivities, while the six next best named the Maids of Honor to the Queen.

T. J. Maupin was the winner and placed the laurel crown on the head of Miss Julia Quick, now Mrs. William Fallis, while Daniel Gulley, E. D. Porter and F. E. Williams were among the knights-errant who chose the maids of honor.

Besides this sport, other games and contests were had during the afternoon and at night the merry picnickers came home with as much pomp as Robin Hood and his archers returning from the tournament of Prince John.

## HUGH DYER &amp; COMPANY, BOILER WORKS

In May, 1875, Hugh Dyer established at Joplin the Hugh Dyer & Company Boiler Works, the first plant of its kind to be established in the mining district. The founding of this machine works was of vast importance to the district, as it materially reduced the cost of mining machinery.

## HACK LINES TO CARTHAGE AND NEOSHO

In 1875 Messrs Thomas Connor and W. Kilgore established two hack lines, one making daily trips to the county seat and the other to Neosho. Both lines did a good business, but the Carthage line of course was the most used. During 1875-6 the fare to Carthage on the Connor-Kil-



JOPLIN'S FIRST FOUNDRY

gore line was twenty-five cents, the same as now charged by the electric street railway.

## BOARD OF TRADE

The first business-men's organization of Joplin was organized during 1875 and called the Board of Trade. Club rooms were fitted up in the basement of the Heathwood building and here the meetings were had. There were seventy-five members of the organization.

## ORGANIZATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

After the fire in East Joplin in 1872, steps were taken to secure better fire protection and two hook and ladder trucks were bought early in 1873 which were manned by volunteer companies. The records of these two companies have been lost and we are unable to give the personnel of the two organizations other than to say that they were composed of the best citizens of both towns.

In 1875 a Babcock fire engine was purchased and a fire company organized on March 10th with the following officers: Chief, C. J. G. Work-

izer; foreman, E. D. Porter; assistant foreman, D. W. Cowan. The company was named in honor of Joplin's first prospector, the E. R. Moffet Fire Company.

#### CITY ELECTION, 1875

At the fall election in October, 1875, the following officers were elected: Mayor, F. L. Thompson; marshal, J. F. Bair; police judge, W. B. McAntire; city attorney, John C. Trigg; treasurer, A. E. Blackwell; councilmen, M. Clark, Ira Taylor and L. B. West, with F. E. Williams, P. L. Swartz and L. Adams holding over.

The appointed officers were: City clerk, I. W. Davis; assessor and collector, J. W. Reed; fire warden, George Merwin, street commissioner, E. F. Scudder.

#### OLD-FASHIONED SPELLING MATCH (MAY, 1875)

The winter of '74-5 was a severe one and there was much suffering among the poor. To relieve the situation the charitably-inclined ladies of the city formed an aid society and gave a series of entertainments for the purpose of raising money. The last of these entertainments consisted of a series of spelling matches during the latter part of May. The first one of these was held May 22nd and was well attended. Miss S. S. McCracken, a teacher in the West Joplin schools, and Attorney O. H. Tousley, of the east side, were the captains, and chose up. The winner in the contest was W. H. Calfee, Mrs. William Simpson taking second honors.

At the next match, one week later, there was much interest manifested and quite a number of the old-time champions brushed up for the occasion.

At eleven o'clock, the room had been spelled down save three, W. H. Calfee, the champion of the first match, U. B. Webster, and Thomas Sutton.

At twelve o'clock the trio were still on the floor and the affair was called a draw, each sharing the honors of the evening.

It might be added as an item of interest that Mr. Calfee's daughter, now Mrs. W. A. Nickell, inherited her father's faculty for correct spelling and during her school days seldom misspelled or mispronounced a word, graduating as the valedictorian of her class in 1887. Her daughter, Miss Maude Nickell, graduated from the Joplin High School in 1911 and, like her mother, was valedictorian of her class.

#### EAST JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

On the 22d of February, 1876, at a meeting of the literary and book-loving people of East Joplin, a Library Association was formed with the following officers: President, U. B. Webster; vice president, Thomas Sutton; secretary, O. H. Tousley; treasurer, John Rousch.

During the month of March a series of entertainments were given and two hundred and seventy-five dollars raised, which sum was spent in the



purchase of newspapers, magazines and periodicals, and a reading room was maintained by the society until 1877. During that year there was a decline in the lead market and the temporary shutting down of a number of the mines brought on for a short time a financial unrest which caused the organization to close the rooms.

#### BRUCE YOUNGER

During the summer of 1876 Bruce Younger, brother of Cole Younger, came to Joplin and worked in the mines under an assumed name.

On the evening of August 1st of that year a band of masked men rushed into a saloon where the young man was standing, and, seizing him, hurried to the street where the entire party mounted horses and rode rapidly out of town, almost before the lookers-on realized what was going on. On learning that the young man who had been kidnapped was a brother of one of the members of the James gang, it was thought that that body of marauders was in the neighborhood and had spirited Bruce away lest his identity become known.

#### JOPLIN AT THE CENTENNIAL

At the Centennial exposition at Philadelphia, in 1876, Joplin had a creditable display of minerals. The expense of maintaining the exhibit was defrayed by a fund contributed by the large mining companies and by the ladies of Joplin, who gave a series of entertainments and socials for the purpose.

#### CITY ELECTION, CENTENNIAL YEAR

The city election in October, 1876, occurred during the midst of the presidential campaign and, although the party lines were not drawn, it was hotly contested. The two opposing candidates for mayor were F. E. Williams, druggist in East Joplin, and E. D. Porter, of the firm of Porter & Roberts, West Joplin. Both men were exceedingly popular, being held in the highest esteem by their fellow townsmen. During the campaign the old prejudice and jealousy between the two towns was renewed and feeling ran high. East Joplin, as in 1873, voted almost solidly for her candidate. Porter carried West Joplin and Lone Elm, but the tremendous majority for Williams in East Joplin elected him by 111.

The vote at this mayoralty election was as follows: East Joplin, F. E. Williams, 441; E. D. Porter, 44.

West Joplin—Williams, 298; Porter, 570.

Lone Elm—Williams, 176; Porter, 190.

Much interest was also manifested in the contest for marshal. J. W. Lupton and W. S. Norton, who had figured so prominently in the riot in 1874, were both candidates and the feeling between their friends ran high. It was feared that the election of either one would cause trouble and L. C. (Cass) Hamilton, who was deputy under Mr. Bair, was induced to shy his castor into the ring. The result was: Hamilton, 1,119;

Lupton, 365; Norton, 226, Mr. Hamilton was for ten successive terms reelected marshal of Joplin, closing his political career in 1887. He was elected police judge in 1885 and served two years.

The vote on city attorney was: C. H. Montgomery, 681; G. D. Orner, 632; J. C. Trigg, 355.

The vote on treasurer was: C. W. Babst (Lone Elm), 578; A. E. Blackwell, 538; F. L. Thompson, 354.

The election for councilmen was also close in East Joplin. C. F. Taylor defeated William Quick by four votes. William Watkins in West Joplin defeated M. Clark by eight votes. I. W. Gilbert, of Lone Elm came into the aldermanic body as the representative of that thriving burg.

#### F. E. WILLIAMS

Frank E. Williams was a native of Michigan, being born December 6, 1849. After graduating from the Ann Arbor High School in June, 1866, he following the advice of Horace Greely, came "west to grow up with the country," and first settled at Lawrence, Kansas, clerking in a general store for three and a half years.

The later part of 1869 Mr. Williams went to Granby, Newton county, where he opened a general store and was shortly after appointed postmaster of that place. He came to Joplin in August, 1873, and opened a drug store in East Joplin in connection with his brother, Henry, who was a graduate of the pharmaceutical department of the University of Michigan.

Mr. Williams at once became prominently identified with the public enterprise of the city and was elected a member of the city council from East Joplin in October, 1874. During his membership in that body he urged the building of sidewalks and a uniform system of grading the streets. He saw to it that East Joplin got all that was coming to it and it was this loyalty to the east side that gained for him the almost unanimous support of the First ward at the election of 1876. During his occupancy of the mayor's chair, however, he was fair and impartial and worked for the good of the whole town, carrying into vigorous execution his policies of civic improvement.

Personally, Mr. Williams was a most popular man, having scarcely an enemy. His polite and polished manner and his many little deeds of kindness gained for him the title of "Lord Chesterfield of Joplin."

Mr. Williams was president of the Board of Education in 1889 and took a prominent part also in military affairs, being major of the Second Missouri Regiment, United States Volunteers, during the Spanish-American war. During his second year as mayor he moved his drug business to West Joplin and was closely identified with the business interests of the city, being a director in the Miners' Bank and South Joplin Land Company. A mention of the reception given in honor of his wedding will be made in our notes of "Joplin During the 'Eighties.'" Major Williams died in 1901.

## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN 1876

Very naturally the presidential campaign of 1876 caused much excitement in Joplin. Both the Democratic and Republican committees maintained club rooms and, in addition to having a number of speeches and ward meetings, had torch-light processions. A mention of the two monster torch-light processions and the Democratic barbecue has already been made in the chapter on "County Politics During the 'Seventies."

The vote in Joplin at the presidential election of 1876 was as follows: Hayes, Republican—East Joplin, 381; West Joplin, 538.

Tilden, Democrat—East Joplin, 523; West Joplin, 657.

Cooper, Greenbacker—East Joplin, 47; West Joplin, 31.

The successful candidates on the Galena township ticket were: Trustees—W. B. McCracken, Geo. Orear and J. P. Newell; assessor, P. L. Swartz; collector, J. J. Breazeale; constables—L. A. Short and John T. Hodshier.

## SOCIETY MASK-BALL DECEMBER 28, 1876

The society event of 1876 was the mask-ball at the Joplin Hotel, the close of the Centennial year.

The following were among the jolly throng of dancers: Miss Fannie Davis, as Catharine Howard; Miss Addie Stoddard, as Lady Jane Grey; Miss Nellie Coyle, as Anne Boleyn; Miss F. C. Burns, as Mary Queen of Scots; Miss Jo. Roberts, as Queen Elizabeth; little Lillie Henderson, as Daughter of the Regiment; Miss Agnes Conway, as Anne of Austria; Miss Beach, as Juliet; Mrs. Cronk, as Topsy; Jas. Wise, as Prince of Frisco; W. G. Baker, as Duke of Essex; E. D. Porter, as Cassius; J. D. Rainwatter, as officer in Confederate Army; C. A. Powell, as Thomas Jefferson; Mayor F. C. Williams, as Hamlet; Mr. Coyle, as Brother Jonathan; G. B. Young, as George Washington; P. H. Head, as Royal Guardsman; M. W. Stafford, as Oxford Student; Jas. M. Leonard, as Charles II; W. E. Maynard, as King Henry VIII; A. D. Coon, as Sir Peter Teazle; W. H. Picher, as Sitting Bull; Mose Weiler and Joe Franklin, as Crusaders.

## THE RISELING BUILDING

A few years ago there was a funny story that went the rounds about the Bingville school board. The story briefly told was as follows: The district had outgrown the schoolhouse and it was voted to build a new one and in order to economize, it was decided to use the bricks in the old school with which to build the new temple of learning, and to the end that no time be lost, it was further agreed to use the old schoolhouse until the new building was completed. Joplin, during the first boom days, had a parallel to the above and, although a larger and substantial house was not built from an old one, a new and larger store was actually built around an old structure while an extensive and profitable business was being carried on, without the loss of a single day's occupancy of the store.

During the summer of 1876, Levi Riseling built at the corner of Third and Main street a two-story brick store room, fifty by one hundred feet, in and around a two-story frame building which he was using as a general hardware and furniture store.

The shelving was first moved in from the north and south side of the room and a temporary wooden water-shed built. After placing props under the roof the side walls were torn down, the foundation dug and the massive walls of the brick store put up. The new building extended further back than the old house and the rear wall was built at the same time as the side walls. On the completion of these three walls, temporary center-pieces were put in and the roof built over the old house.

The old frame was then torn down and as much of the lumber as was available was used in the new structure; in fact, almost every particle of timber in the old building, excepting the shingles and siding, were put to some use. All the time that this work was going on, a large business was being carried on, some five or six clerks being employed in the store, besides a couple of delivery wagons which were in use all the time. Of course, during this time the stock of goods was shifted a great many times to accommodate the daily changing conditions. All of the men employed in building were paid off each night at the close of the day's work and out of the sales of the day's business.

#### THE EAST JOPLIN SCHOOL

Mr. Ormsby was succeeded as principal of the East Joplin school by S. A. Underwood. Mr. Underwood was a good organizer and brought the schools up to a high standard, retiring in 1877, when he was elected county superintendent of schools. For notes on his administration as county commissioner the reader is referred to the chapter on "Educational Matters."

The teaching force in East Joplin during the Centennial year comprised the following, with the number enrolled by each on the first day of the term: S. A. Underwood, principal, 40; U. B. Webster, 60; Josie Culpepper, 70; Anna Whitwell, 80; total, 250. With two hundred and fifty pupils in the four rooms the first day, one can readily imagine the ingenuity it required to plan for the school when all the pupils are enrolled. Mr. Underwood devised a system of hearing recitation under these trying circumstances.

#### THE WEST JOPLIN SCHOOLS

Mr. Arnold continued in charge of the West Joplin Schools during 1874-6, under the same conditions as at the organization, with one assistant in the brick building at 4th and Pennsylvania, and two assistants at the Methodist church, Fourth and Kentucky.

At the close of the term in the spring of 1875, public exercises were conducted in the several rooms and the *Joplin Daily News* published



the names of the pupils who had made in, the closing examinations, a grade of 90 per cent. or more.

The following were in the honor list: Emma Giles, 100; Artie Spencer (A. E.), 100; Ordie Allen, 99.5; Ethel Holman, 98; Emma Bingham, 98; Ida Miller, 98; Millie Smith, 98; Gee Howell, 98; Elsie Mitchell, 97.5; Mamie McClaren, 97.5; Phoebe Reubart, 97.5; Laura McAdams, 97.5; Clarence Franz, 97; Isabel Irwin, 97; Jack Dolan, 97; Wilson McAdams, 97; Frank Reed, 97; Frank Warren, 96; Frank Hobbs, 96; Addie Irwin, 96; Willie Henrichs, 95.5; Anna McClarren, 95; Caddie Goodwin, 94.4; Almada Prewitt, 94; Joe Reibart, 93.5; Mamie Alley, 93; Ella Weidener, 92.5; Mamie Holman, 92.5; Mamie Norton, 92; and Martha Caldwell, 92.

During the fall of '76 a new school for the west side was built at the corner of Fourth and Byers, the present site of the high school. The new building was a three-room frame. The building was completed during the winter and was opened for the spring term March 20, 1877. G. P. Garland was the first principal of the school and Messrs. Miles and Cornwell his assistants. These three new rooms gave to the west side schools nine teachers for the term 1876-7.

#### THE LONE ELM SCHOOL

In 1875 the people of Lone Elm, now grown to a camp of approximately a thousand people, clamored for a separate school organization and steps were taken to detach a portion of the territory belonging to District No. 4 and unite it with a portion of the old Peace Church school district. In 1876 the organization was effected and Joseph Hostiliter, P. Quinn and J. L. Harvey were elected the first board of directors.

The territorial limits of the Lone Elm district included that portion of Joplin, west of Joplin creek north of what is now "E" street, and extending north of Turkey creek to a quarter of a mile south of old Tuckahoe. R. T. Guinn was the first teacher of the district and he, with the directors, bent every effort toward building a school. In 1877, \$1,000 was raised by popular subscription and a neat two-roomed frame school erected.

The two rooms of the school were built so that they could be thrown into one room by opening the folding doors. On Sunday the building was used for church purposes and during the winter evenings for the meeting of literary societies. During the political campaigns it also served as a town hall.

Mr. Guinn was a very popular teacher and the Lone Elm board paid him one hundred dollars per month for his services.

#### THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We are indebted to Charles Miles for the following information concerning the early history of the First Christian church of Joplin, which was read at the time of the dedication of its new building, December 29, 1901.

The First Christian Church of Joplin was formally organized in 1874, but a word as to the conditions existing prior to that time and leading to the organization may be instructive and interesting. As a river frequently has its origin in several places, so this church was made up from several different sources.

In the fall of 1867 Mr. Israel Patton, lately deceased, led an emigrant train from Indiana to this county, finally settling just southwest of this city. He was an ardent member of the Christian church and he, with others, were soon holding religious services in the "Grove," which was God's first temple. The first building occupied was a log schoolhouse, which had stood the ravages of the Civil war. Messrs. Wells, Field and Starks were the names of the early preachers to this flock. The local elders were Mr. Patton and Mr. Carey. The deacons were Mr. Adams and Mr. Schumacher. The latter is still living in Blendeville.

They next occupied a building especially erected for church purposes. It was a double room log house. The hewn logs and also pine lumber for ceiling and flooring, together with six windows and casing, were furnished by J. A. Miles, late of No. 224 N. Wall street. This building stood just north of what is now Central City and was known as Short Creek Christian church.

There were also congregations at Carthage, Diamond Grove and Five Mile, all surrounding points. Services were also held at various schoolhouses nearby, by Mr. M. Lane and Mr. Wells. In 1870 ore was discovered and in a year the town of Joplin had grown to a population of four hundred souls. Among the people who came from a distance were members of the Christian church. Members of the churches above mentioned were drawn to the rapidly growing city, especially from the Short Creek church, so that by 1873 there were some thirty or forty persons who found themselves of similar religious faith but without a church home. About this time Mr. M. Jenkins began to visit Joplin and preach as opportunity offered.

In the month of May, 1874, he preached a sermon in the brick Presbyterian church, northeast corner of Fourth and Pennsylvania avenue, at the close of which an organization was effected. Among the charter members were the following: Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Faulkender, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Gillette, Mrs. Elizabeth Huffman, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Miles, Mr. W. L. Shumacher, Mr. and Mrs. Israel Patton, Mr. Eugene Poor, Mr. and Mrs. Harlan, Mr. and Mrs. Havill, Mr. and Mrs. Sutherland, Mrs. Moore, J. Groves and wife, Mrs. Pruitt, Mr. L. Kay; Mr. and Mrs. Lampkin (now in Mexico), Dr. T. W. Miles (of Denver), Mr. and Mrs. Whitwell (of Diamond, this county), Mrs. Underwood (of Kansas City), Mrs. Lampkin (of Joplin), Mr. Lampkin (deceased), and possibly a few names may be overlooked.

Mr. Jenkins was continued for some time as the regular preacher, making a visit monthly. For six months the congregation met in the Cumberland Presbyterian church, above mentioned. Then for six months they met in the old city hall on Broadway, near the site of the old gas

works. Next, they met in a Baptist church at the corner of John and Hill streets, which was subsequently sold and removed to the country. Amos Buchanan then became pastor of the church.

The next abiding place, but not for long was Howell Hall on Broadway near Gillette and Liehliter's store. From here they went to Forbe's Hall, corner of Broadway and John street. This was sold for a medical institute and the church then found itself like many a wanderer upon the earth.

For awhile meetings were held from house to house. The members then resolved that they would build a home of their own. Mr. Miles and Dr. Wells led in this movement. A lot was purchased at the southeast corner of Fourth and Pennsylvania avenue for fifty dollars. It recently sold for a consideration of three thousand dollars. On this lot was erected a modest building costing probably two thousand dollars. L. Z. Burr, now of Kansas City, was pastor while the house was being built and with the assistance of Mr. Lane dedicated it to the service of God. Mr. Burr was a teacher, as well as a preacher. At that time, as many times since, the city was short of school rooms and the church was used the first year as a school building. A curtain was hung from the ceiling, making two rooms. Thus the children were taught during the week and the people heard the gospel on the Lord's day. Mr. Burr was pastor five years.

In November, 1877, the Rev. Cunningham assisted Rev. Burr in a successful revival, during which time sixty-eight conversions were made. Most of the converts were baptized in Joplin creek, just south of where the Broadway bridge is located and it was an impressive sight each afternoon to witness the ceremonies of immersion. (Joplin creek at that time was much deeper than it is now and, although much used for washing purposes, the water was still comparatively clear.) One evening, just as the ceremonies were about to conclude, a miner returning from his work stopped to witness the ceremony and becoming converted asked to be baptised. Wading out into the middle of the creek, he was immersed by the Rev. Cunningham in the clothes he wore at the mines that day.

Following Mr. Burr came W. B. Cochran and R. A. Thomson as pastors. During the ministry of Mr. Thomson, a front vestibule was put in, a new flue built, the ceiling lowered to improve the acoustics, chairs re-varnished and the house overhauled in general. Then came T. E. Shepherd, J. T. Boone, W. W. Blalock, W. W. Carter and J. M. Rudy. Mr. Rudy was unusually successful in his work and to accommodate the people the house was enlarged, a baptistry put in, two dressing rooms added, house carpeted, papered and partially seated with opera chairs.

Then came Melancthon Moore, C. H. White and J. W. Glarrell as pastors. Besides these men the following evangelists have held meetings here: J. Cunningham, H. C. Patterson, A. D. Moore, and J. R. Speek.

(The sketch of the Christian church will be continued in the chapter on the 'nineties.)

#### EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Philip's Episcopal church was organized February 22, 1874, by the Rev. R. C. Wall of Carthage. Services were held alternate Sundays at



various rented places until 1877, when they were for a time discontinued on account of financial difficulties, the membership of the church being small.

#### THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

In 1875 Rev. Father O'Riley came to Joplin and took the pastorate of the Catholic church, holding his first meetings in Howell's Hall, East Joplin. Services were continued there until 1877, when the parish moved to the church building which had been completed at the corner of Eighth and Wall streets.

Father O'Riley was a zealous worker and labored faithfully for his church. The author remembers him well and recalls with pleasure the splendid advice he gave him and other school boys who were playing one day near the church.

At the time of the dedication of the Catholic church the congregation had grown to one hundred parishioners.

#### THE BAPTISTS

On November 26, 1876, Rev. F. A. Bowman of the Spring River Association, preached at Howell's Hall, East Joplin, and at the close of the sermon invited all who would assist in forming a Baptist church to come forward. The following were the original members of the First Baptist church: Amanda E. Fike, T. A. McClelland, Richard Walsh, Caleb Brooks, Cynthia Brooks, Wm. B. Beasley, Caroline Beasley, Spencer Forshua, Martha Forshua, Sarah Martin, Robert G. Hyde, Elizabeth Hyde, May S. Pickett, Kate N. Tousley, and Andrew J. Martin.

The Council of Recognition which was called to formally recognize the church comprised Rev. J. W. Wilkes, W. T. Thomalsen and Rev. Bowman.

After the church was formally organized, Rev. Bowman was called as pastor and preached for the congregation one Sunday in each month. No church was built during the 'seventies, the services being held in a rented hall.

#### BUILDING OF THE TABERNACLE

During the fall of 1876 Rev. J. C. Plumb came to Joplin for the purpose of reorganizing, or more properly speaking, of gathering together the few members of the Congregationalist society in the city and establishing a church of their denomination. The congregation gathered by the Rev. Gutton had never formally organized a church.

Beginning October 2nd, Rev. Plumb began a series of meetings in the Joplin Theater, continuing for eleven weeks. These meetings were successful and a large congregation was built up. Rev. Plumb now saw that this was the opportune time to erect a church home, and accordingly a committee, consisting of John B. Sergeant, A. M. Haswell and W. L. Carver, was appointed to raise funds for a building. The congregation which attended Rev. Plumb's meeting was largely gathered from all



denominations and it was decided to organize a non-sectarian society under the name of the Tabernacle Church of Joplin, \$2,900 was raised. \$600 was spent for a lot, corner of Fourth and Virginia, the site of the Landreth Machine Company, and \$2,300 was used for building and furniture, a part of which was borrowed. The structure, a large one-room box frame building was sixty-six by forty feet, set off with a vestibule and a bell loft in front, which gave it a church-like appearance.

The room was not at first finished on the inside. It was used for the first time Sunday, December 31, 1876, the Rev. Robert West of St. Louis preaching the dedicatory sermon. The following were among the members of the Tabernacle church: J. C. Plumb and wife; John B. Sergeant and wife; A. M. Haswell and wife; C. F. Jennings; Sarah Robinson; Geo. W. McCoy and W. R. Frobish.

The church policy was liberal and the several members were permitted to think and freely express themselves on the several isms which divided the church relative to baptism, creed, dancing, etc.

The old Tabernacle church was not a pretentious looking building, nor was it handsomely furnished, but it was very near and dear to the hearts of the great mass of Joplin people. For the want of a town hall the church was largely used for public gatherings of all kinds and the people came to look upon the old Tabernacle as a part of the home life of the city.

In this old church the following came to life: The Francis Murphy movement in 1877; the first skating rink in June, 1878; the first school exhibition, June, 1878; the reorganization of the fire department, after the establishment of the water works, 1881; the organization of the first Y. P. S. C. E. in the city, 1886, and the preliminary meeting to organize the Y. M. C. A., 1887. We mention these few incidents to show how generally, the Tabernacle was used and for what a variety of purposes.

The old bell at the Tabernacle was the biggest and best in the city, being bought and paid for by public subscription. It now graces the city hall. When the Tabernacle burned, in 1893, the firemen worked hard to save the tower so that the old bell might not be injured.

#### FIRST CHURCH WEDDING

The first church wedding in Joplin was that of Philip Arnold, principal of the West Joplin schools and Miss Henrietta Mercer. The wedding was celebrated in the South Methodist-Presbyterian church, East Joplin, in October, 1874, the Rev. Robert Wall performing the ceremony.

#### THE MASONIC FRATERNITY

On the 10th day of August, 1873, a meeting of the Masons was held to take the preliminary steps toward forming a lodge of that order. The meeting was largely attended and a petition in due form was forwarded to the Grand Lodge of the state praying that a dispensation be granted for the organization of a lodge at Joplin. The grand master of the Ma-

sonic fraternity at that time was Hon. R. E. Anderson, and he declined to grant the petition, saying in reply that he thought there were already enough Masonic lodges in the county. A little thing like the denial of the charter could not daunt the pioneer Masons of Joplin. It so happened that at the little town of Fidelity, then on the decline, there was a Masonic lodge (Fellowship Lodge, No. 345) which had been instituted January 22, 1870. Among the members of the lodge who had moved to Joplin were S. H. Caldwell, ex-sheriff, and James A. Bolen, later county recorder and now the coal merchant prince of Kansas City.

It was now proposed to move Fellowship Lodge to Joplin and a vote of the members taken resulted favorably. On February 19, 1874, the grand master approved the petition to move the lodge and it was accordingly transplanted to Joplin, the first meeting after the removal being held April 1st. The lodge room was the second floor of the building on the southwest corner of Second and Main streets.

The officers of the lodge at the time of the removal to Joplin were: M. H. Patrick, worshipful master; J. W. Brook, senior warden; M. W. Halsell, junior warden; J. W. Burch, secretary; Jas. Ayler, treasurer; C. D. Tucker, senior deacon; E. M. Burch, junior deacon, and W. W. Webb, tyler.

The membership of Fellowship Lodge at the date of its removal to Joplin was nineteen. Twenty members were admitted by demit and six brothers were raised during the year.

Most of the above officers lived in the county, in and around Fidelity, and at the election of officers held the following June the following were inducted into the chairs: Reuben Whitwell, worshipful master; S. H. Caldwell, senior warden; M. W. Stafford, treasurer; W. E. Maynard, secretary; E. D. Tucker, senior deacon; E. M. Burch, junior deacon, and W. A. Greenlee, tyler.

In 1876 the lodge was moved to the second story of the brick building now occupied by the Ramsour bar, where it remained until 1877, when a two-story frame building was erected at No. 516 Main street, the lower portion being rented for a store room and the upstairs being used for a Masonic hall.

#### MEDOC (NOW JOPLIN LODGE) No. 335

After Fellowship Lodge was moved to Joplin the Masonic craft grew and prospered for a time, but during the year 1875 the jealousy and rivalry between East and West Joplin crept into the lodge room and the East town brethren desired a lodge over on the East side. Accordingly, the major portion of the brethren who lived in East Joplin demitted and began casting about for the best method to pursue to secure a lodge on the east side of the creek.

Medoc Lodge, No. 335, which had been instituted at Medoc in the northwestern part of the county, June 18, 1869, like the lodge of Fidelity, had for some months been dormant and quite a number of its members had moved to Joplin, among them C. A. Underwood, who was the senior warden of the lodge. A proposition was made to move the lodge to East

Joplin and on December 21, 1875, the vote was taken and almost unanimously carried.

The first meeting held after the move was February 17, 1876, the meeting being in a frame building at the corner of Galena and Broadway. At the time of its removal to Joplin, Medoc Lodge had eighteen members in good standing and at this session (February 17th) some twenty Joplin citizens deposited their demits.

The following brothers served the lodge as masters during the 'seventies: 1876, C. A. Underwood; 1877, Lee Taylor; 1878, C. L. Shepherd, and 1879, S. H. Thompson.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

The third great fraternity to be organized in Joplin was the Knights of Pythias. On June 15, 1876, Joplin Lodge, No. 40, was instituted by the Hon. C. J. Lucas, grand chancellor of the order.

The charter list contained among the signers some of the best citizens, among them the mayor, F. E. Williams; city marshal, Cass Hamilton; P. Murphy, the father of Murphysburg; C. W. Glover, cashier of the Joplin's Savings Bank; Peter Schmur, editor of the *Joplin Daily News*; Postmaster M. W. Stafford and men of that character. The Knights of Pythias lodge was to Joplin during the early days what the Elk lodge is now, the social organization of the city.

The following were the first officers of Joplin Lodge, No. 40, K. of P.: Past chancellor, E. D. Porter; chancellor commander, F. E. Williams; vice chancellor, F. A. Miles; prelate, W. E. Maynard; master of exchequer, Chas. W. Glover; master of finance, R. T. Greer; K. of R. and S. Peter Schmur; master-at-arms, M. W. Stafford; inside guard, Geo. W. Gore, and outside guard, Joe Murphy.

#### JOPLIN TURNVEREIN GERMANIA

Joplin contains among its citizens many splendid representatives of the German fatherland and their influence has been greatly felt in this city. The two pioneer "jack" buyers are Germans. It was a German who built the first bakery in the city and a German who interested in the organization of the first bank in Joplin. In many ways the sturdy sons of Germany have taken a great part in the building and developing of the city. The people of German descent have made most excellent citizens and, while they are loyal to the United States and take an active interest in our national government and local affairs, they still cherish, as they should, a kindly feeling for the home in the old world. For the purpose of keeping alive the tender memories of their native land, for the promotion of their mutual interests and for the education and general uplift of their fellow-countryman, the Germans have in every large city formed societies through which they mingle and spend a goodly portion of their social life.

The Germania Social and Literary Society of Joplin was organized

December 22, 1876, with a charter membership of fifty, the first officers being: Henry Lutz, president; S. Landauer, vice president; Henry Wolfe, secretary; William Karbe, treasurer.

The purposes of the society are the cultivation of literary tastes and the social entertainment of its members, and its balls, picnics and entertainments have always been brilliant affairs, its singing society having a reputation which has gone beyond the limits of our ten-story county.



## CHAPTER XX

### IN THE LATER 'SEVENTIES

JOPLIN AND GIRARD RAILWAY—THE MISSOURI AND NORTHWESTERN—KANSAS CITY, FORT SCOTT AND GULF—A CITY OF HOLES—DEATH OF JOSHUA P. TAYLOR—SOMETHING ABOUT BLACK JACK—BOARD OF TRADE—BUILDING OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS—ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN—THE WHITE LEAD WORKS—THE GRANBY SMELTER—THE JOPLIN OPERA HOUSE—THE "HERALD"—THE MINERS' BANK—JOPLIN GAS WORKS—THE FRANCIS MURPHY MOVEMENT—OLD SKATING RINK—FIRE DEPARTMENT REORGANIZED—JOPLIN EXPOSITIONS—HARMON'S FOUNDRY—SCHOOLS—CITY POLITICS—WILLIE WATSON'S CHRISTMAS SOCK—WEBB CITY—G. P. ASHCRAFT—WEBB CITY AS A TOWN—AS A FOURTH-CLASS CITY—FIRST CHURCH—THE BLUNT RAID—CARTERVILLE—ORONOGO—OTHER TOWNS.

During the later 'seventies Joplin did not make its former rapid strides, in the way of an increased population, for the following reasons.

First—Toward the close of 1877 the price of lead took a tumble and the mining of this product was not as profitable as before.

Secondly—Lead was discovered at Short Creek (now Galena) just across the Kansas line, and large numbers of Joplin people went to the new camp, which, like pioneer Joplin, was a live wire. The main business thoroughfare in Short Creek was called "Red Hot street" and the name told the whole story.

Thirdly—The mines at Leadville, Colorado, were being opened up and there was a great exodus also to the Centennial state.

Lastly—Many of the shallow pockets of lead had been mined out and the shafts abandoned, the prospectors not knowing that just a little deeper down would be found the richer deposits of jack, abandoned the prospect to try their success in newer fields.

While there was a slight falling off in population there was, however, a steady growth in a business way, the Joplin & Girard Railway being completed, the white lead works and two foundries built and a number of other industries established.

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Up to the close of the 'seventies lead was the standard—the highest price being paid for jack during the 'seventies was fourteen dollars a ton. While Joplin lost a considerable floating number in 1878-9, it held its own and rounded out the decade with only a slight decrease in population, as shown by the special census January 1, 1877, which showed a bona fide population (not counting the floating, or the couple of thousand just out of the city) of 7,544.



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF JOPLIN IN 1877, SHOWING ITS SEVEN HILLS

## THE JOPLIN AND GIRARD RAILWAY

As mentioned in our article on railroads, the Joplin and Girard was the first road to enter the former city and the story of its building is unique and full of interest. In December, 1875, Messrs. Moffet and Sergeant organized the Joplin Railway Company with a capital stock of \$600,000, all of which was subscribed by local capital. It is related by old-timers that at the commencement of this railway project Moffet and Sergeant had lying idle in their safe \$125,000 in greenbacks and that this was used as a nucleus with which to build the road. The purpose of its construction was threefold—to provide a cheaper and quicker mode of transporting the oar to the market; to have a direct route to the Kansas coal field and thus bring the fuel to the smelters and to open a northern market. At this time St. Louis was the only market for the Joplin product.

The first rail on the road was laid in May, 1876, W. C. Hinkson of the Halyard Hardware Company, this city, driving the first spike. As soon as the road was completed to Pittsburgh a box car was set out for a depot and the road began operations with one engine and a few cars, hauling freight and passengers between these two points and pushing out the construction gang as the road was completed to the south. This road was not bonded, but was paid for piece by piece as it was completed, the stockholders digging up successive assessments as the construction went on. In the fall of 1876 the road was finished to the McGee Crossing on Turkey creek and completed to Joplin the next summer, the last spike, appropriately made of lead, being driven August 26, 1877. The depot was located in Smelter Hill, just north of the Leckie foundry, and was occupied by A. E. Stillwell, a prince of good fellows, as agent, who moved the office stock from the box-car depot which had been moved along with the construction from Girard to the end of the line. The first train to run into Joplin was pulled by Pete Butterly as engineer and conductor W. C. Hinkson wielding the ticket puncher. It was the original design of this company to extend the road to Neosho and into north Arkansas and capital was at once subscribed to complete the line. A right-of-way was acquired and grading commenced and a road bed completed to beyond Thurman, when in 1879 the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway bought the Joplin and Girard, which has since operated as a part of its system. The road to the south has never been completed and after the sale of the line the depot at Smeller was discontinued and later torn down.

## THE MISSOURI AND NORTHWESTERN

In 1879 the Missouri and Northwestern Railway, now the 'Frisco, was built from Oronogo to Joplin and the cars were running before the close of the year.

When the road was first built it was a branch line and was operated as such until the 'nineties when the main-line train began running

through Joplin. J. L. Briggs was the first agent of the 'Frisco Railway Company in Joplin.

#### THE KANSAS CITY, FORT SCOTT AND GULF

During 1879 the Kansas City, Ft. Scott and Gulf, later the Memphis route and now a part of the 'Frisco system was built to Joplin and the train began running in October, 1879.

#### A CITY OF HOLES

As mentioned before, the early mining of Joplin was shallow digging and, too often, when the miner had mined out the first pocket struck he abandoned the shaft. In time this left the city with hundreds of abandoned mines and the Carthage Banner very appropriately spoke of Joplin during the latter 'seventies as the City of Holes. It was not until a number of accidents had happened, and several deaths had occurred, before the owners of the land and the miners were compelled to fill up the abandoned mines in close proximity to the streets and largely traveled roads.

#### DEATH OF JOSHUA P. TAYLOR

The following article, clipped from the *Daily News*, August 12, 1877, will illustrate how dangerous was the conditions of the locality during the 'seventies: "Never before have we been called upon to chronicle an affair with as great sorrow as we now record the terrible and sudden death of Joshua P. Taylor, the foreman of the *Daily News*. Saturday evening Mr. Taylor left the office in company with a fellow-craftsman, an old-time acquaintance, and to please him, who had heard so much of Joplin, they took a stroll over the city. They remained on West Main street until near ten o'clock, when they passed down on Broadway, merely through curiosity. The night was dark and they missed their way and Mr. Taylor who was in advance, fell head-long into a shaft which opened its cavernous jaws to receive him. His companion gave the alarm, and in a few moments the shaft was surrounded by sturdy miners, a windlass and rope were immediately procured, and they soon had the dying man at the top. He was taken to his residence on Joplin street, where a more careful examination of his injuries was made. His scalp was found cut in three places, and his skull slightly fractured. No bones were broken, but he received internal injuries to the lungs which showed that death was inevitable. His wife up to this time had been led to believe that his wounds were slight, and when informed that medical skill could not save him her grief was indeed painful to witness. At half past two o'clock Sunday morning the spirit of Joshua P. Taylor took its flight and the circle of friends who stood about his couch beheld only the inanimate remains of one whom they had learned to love and admire for his noble qualities and goodness of heart.

"The remains were then taken charge of by the Masonic fraternity, of



which the deceased had long been an honored member. His death will be learned with profound sorrow by his old associates both in the East and West, and many a printer who has been his companion in the past will drop a tear to his memory."

#### SOMETHING ABOUT BLACK JACK

Toward the close of the 'seventies zinc had come into considerable prominence in the mining district. We publish here a clipping from the *Daily News*, April 4, 1878, which gives an idea of the manner it steadily crept into prominence: "The dissatisfaction existing among many miners concerning the prices paid for black jack, arises in many cases from the fact that to us in the southwest zinc ore is but imperfectly understood, it having been a remarkable product here only within the past three or four years. Until within the last two and a half years the price paid for it was so small that but few miners cared to handle it; in fact, it did not pay them to do so unless they had a solid face of the rosin ore on which to work. This being the case, and consequently not being experts, they find it to be a difficult matter to distinguish between first class ores and those of lower grades.

"Black jack at present is quoted at \$11 a ton for 'strictly first-class' ore, and that is all that is paid for it. But there is ore which is graded even above 'first class,' and which commands a premium in the market. Only two mines yielding such ore are found in the southwest, which are on Parr hill and operated by Hoffman & Saunders and Barbee & McClelland. This ore is much better than any other now mined and commands about thirty-three per cent. more in the market. Consequently, many labor under the impression that their ore should be worth as much as the Parr hill article because, not being experts, they cannot distinguish the difference in the grades.

"Why the Parr hill ore should be any better than any other in the same locality is a matter which even the most expert geologists have not been able to explain. The presence of iron, salvage, mundie and other impurities tend greatly to reduce the value of the article, and we have noticed that those who take the most pains to clean their ore always receive the highest price. It should be well cleaned, for if it is not the buyer must not only pay for cleaning it himself, but must pay freights to distant points on the dirt as well as the ore. This fact the buyer takes into consideration, and the result is, the miner who sells dirty ore must pay all those expenses, which reduces the value of his ore. As soon as southwest miners become as well acquainted with zinc ore as they are with lead ore and as able to grade it, then transactions between them and buyers will be far more pleasant than at present."

#### BOARD OF TRADE

On October 31, 1877, the Joplin Board of Trade was organized, its charter list representing nearly every line of business in the city. Shortly

after its organization that body made a trip to Kansas City for the purpose of becoming better acquainted with the wholesale interests and to catch a few pointers on up-to-date merchandising. The trip was both pleasant and profitable.

#### BUILDING OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In 1876 the Rev. D. K. Campbell of Alleghany City, Pennsylvania, came to the Joplin field and took charge of the First Presbyterian church. Rev. Campbell was sent to the Joplin charge by the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions. West Joplin had now passed East Joplin in point of size and it was the sense of the new pastor that the church would cover a larger field of activity if the congregation was moved to West town, and, accordingly, the half interest which the Presbyterians owned in the East Joplin church was sold back to the South Methodists and the church moved to the west side, taking temporary quarters in Ferguson's hall at Fourth and Main streets.

Measures were now taken to erect a church building and Col. O. S. Picher, father of O. H. and W. H. Picher, of the Picher Lead Company, donated a lot seventy by one hundred and ten feet at the northeast corner of Seventh and Main streets, and there a brick church was erected in 1877, the edifice being dedicated the first Sabbath in September of that year.

Rev. Cyrus H. Dunlap, of Springfield, preached the dedicatory sermon and was assisted by the Rev. W. S. Knight of Carthage. The bell (now in the belfry of the Bethany church, South Joplin) was a gift to the society of John H. Taylor, who, at that time, was a citizen of Carthage. At the time the congregation entered its new home the church membership was thirty-five.

#### THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

April 26, 1877, the natal day of the three-linked fraternity, was duly celebrated in Joplin. The parade, which included the several lodges of the county and the encampments of Joplin and Carthage, was followed by the exercises at the Tabernacle. The oration of the day was delivered by John W. McAntire and those who heard the address pronounced it his masterpiece.

#### THE ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN

Fraternal insurance, which now is exceedingly popular throughout the land, first came into prominent notice through the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and while that society is not the pioneer in fraternal insurance it may properly be said that it was popularized by this organization.

Joplin Lodge No. 34 was organized November 19, 1877, with the following charter members: T. J. Howell, W. B. Halyard, J. C. Faulkender, L. C. Hamilton, H. L. Checkering, John Page, Ira Creech, H. C. Combs,

John Gibbons, John Rousch, F. L. Combs, Jacob Schlars, W. J. Husted, A. E. McGregor, S. H. Caldwell, J. C. Gastos, Philip Arnold and L. A. Fillmore.

#### THE WHITE LEAD WORKS

During the year 1877 the first plant of the White Lead Works was built and from then to now, the lead factory has been the pride of all Joplin and perhaps its most widely-advertised institution.

Prior to the building of these works, lead was smelted by the old process and a considerable portion of the lead fumes went up in smoke; in fact, the best and most experienced smelters would lose at least one-third of the lead in this manner.

E. O. Bartlett, of Philadelphia, conceived the idea of catching the lead fumes, extracting them from the smoke and thus save the millions of dollars formerly lost in the smelting process.

For ten years, from 1866 to 1876, he experimented with a process which he had thought out. At length, in 1876, feeling certain that he had worked out the process satisfactorily, he came to Joplin and asked permission of Moffet & Sergeant to erect a small experimental lead factory at the smelter of the Lone Elm Mining & Smelting Company. This firm, quick to see the value of an invention of this kind, granted the permission and the process was attached to all of the eyes in their lead furnaces. The experiment was a success and Mr. Bartlett patented his process.

A company was now organized, consisting of Messrs. E. O. Bartlett, Moffet & Sergeant and Geo. T. Lewis, to build white lead works using the new process. The first plant cost \$80,000 and was a frame structure. This factory turned out a high grade of lead spelter and also manufactured pure and sublimated white lead which is sold in all the markets of the world; the United States government is a purchaser from this factory, using the Joplin white lead to paint the battleships of the navy. The lead works are now owned and operated by the Picher Lead Company. A further mention of this wonderful process will be made in our notes of the last decade.

#### THE GRANBY SMELTER

During the fall of 1877 the Granby Mining and Smelting Company erected a large furnace in Lone Elm. This smelter employed a large force of men and smelted the lead from their lands, but during the 'eighties the plant was abandoned and torn down.

#### THE JOPLIN OPERA HOUSE

The Blackwell (Joplin) Opera House was built in 1877, and was for its time a nice show-house. The amusement hall occupied the second floor of a business block between First and Second, and H. H. Haven was the manager of the theater. The house was opened September 17th, with Blanche De Barr in "Fair Women." The Joplin was a popular

show house until the middle 'eighties, and a number of old-time stars appeared before its footlights, among them Fay Templeton and Blind Tom.

#### THE "HERALD"

On March 4, 1877, the *Sunday Herald* made its first appearance in Joplin and was published as a weekly until November, when it was changed to a daily and continued as such until 1901, when it consolidated with the *Daily News* under the name of the *Joplin News-Herald*.

The *Herald* was ably edited by A. W. Carson, more commonly known as Kit Carson, and from its beginning was a popular sheet. Mr. Carson was quick to see the funny side of life and often chronicled the happenings of the day in a humorous vein. He, too, had a faculty of knowing what was news and its columns were both interesting and spicy. Politically, the *Herald* was Democratic. In compiling the remaining pages of this book the author will quote frequently from the *Herald*, a full file of which is at the Carnegie Library, a gift to that institution by Mr. Carson some years before his death.

#### THE MINERS' BANK

In 1877 the private banking house of P. Murphy & Company opened its doors to the public. Patrick Murphy was its president and Frank Kershaw cashier. A year later Mr. Murphy became associated with T. K. Tootle of St. Joseph, T. K. Hanna of Kansas City, and C. H. Brewster of Boonville, and its name was changed to the Miners' Bank, which was chartered as a state institution. The officers of the reorganized institution were: P. Murphy, president; C. H. Brewster, vice president; Frank Kershaw, cashier.

The great confidence which the citizens of Joplin had in Pat Murphy, together with the financial reputation of the Tooles of St. Joseph brought to the bank a large business.

#### JOPLIN GAS WORKS

On September 19, 1876, C. E. Gray, Henry Flood and A. B. Bowman, of St. Louis, met with the city council in special session and submitted a proposition to erect gas works in Joplin and pipe it through the city. The proposition seemed fair and was accepted, an ordinance granting a franchise being passed by that body. C. J. Lewis of Lawrence, Kansas, a construction engineer of ability, was engaged to superintend the work. Material for the construction was at once ordered and in December the work of laying mains and building the plant was commenced. On March 4th, the same day that the *Herald* made its first publication, fires were placed in the benches, and on the 24th day of the same month Joplin was illuminated for the first time. The *Herald* in its issue of March 25th says: "The gas works were completed a few days ago and gas turned into the main for the first time last night. Considering that



it is the first production of the works, it burns exceedingly well. This is the grandest feather that has ever been stuck in Joplin's cap. The speedy manner in which the works have been pushed forward to completion merits for the company the thanks of the citizens of this city."

The gas plant and reservoir were located between the two towns on Joplin creek just south of Broadway. C. J. Lewis, the superintendent of the works, remained with the company until 1887, when he accepted a similar position with the Hannibal Water Company, of Hannibal, Missouri.

#### THE FRANCIS MURPHY MOVEMENT

The early months of 1878 saw in Joplin a great temperance revival in the Murphy Red Ribbon Movement which swept over the country that year. The meetings were held in the Tabernacle and for three months were nightly attended by thousands of people, the house not being able to hold the vast audiences that nightly crowded the old church building. This movement resulted in a closing of the Sunday saloon for a time and was the beginning of a movement to close the stores on Sunday. Twelve thousand men in Joplin signed the pledge and joined the Red Ribbon Club during this temperance crusade.

#### THE OLD SKATING RINK

Early in the fall of 1877 the roller skate made its first appearance in Joplin and a rink was opened in the old Tabernacle, the chairs being carried out during the week and brought back for the Sunday services. One half of the proceeds of the skating rink went to the church. The amusement became very popular and was enjoyed both by old and young.

On December 31, 1877, a skating contest was held, the following persons being entered: E. D. Porter, Mayor F. C. Williams, Wm. Pyle, George Good, Frank Bingham, Rev. J. C. Plumb, Marshal Cass Hamilton, Dorie Davis and C. W. Glover.

Mesdames J. C. Shepherd, G. B. Revis, G. A. Case, J. C. Mason, A. C. Pyle and C. J. Lewis.

Misses Sue Leonard, now Mrs. A. H. Warte, Fannie Davis and Miss Blackwill.

E. D. Porter was voted the most graceful skater and was the social lion of the evening.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT REORGANIZED

On October 5, 1877, a fire broke out on the east side of West Main street between Third and Fourth and destroyed the entire block, the loss being estimated at \$50,000.00. The fire department responded, but the only good that was accomplished was the saving of other buildings on the opposite side of the street. This fire impressed the city with the necessity for an improvement in the fire service and the department was increased and reorganized; that is, more men were enlisted in the volun-

teer companies, so that it would be easier to run with the apparatus to the fire.

The following were the members of the new company: Foreman, F. M. Chinnourth; first assistant foreman, E. Tschappler; second assistant foreman, W. J. Rusch.

Truckmen: G. B. Carney, John Houk, Sol Wallace and Wm. Chappen.

Pumpmen: J. Anderson, F. A. Taylor, S. Shellenbarger, F. Hiatt, T. Turtling, J. Grant, D. A. Fox, and C. Adams.

Nozzlemen: D. Chennawith, A. L. Willia, J. N. Dunnigan and J. W. Johnson.

Linemen: J. Shellenbarger, D. Hood, G. W. Mitchell and L. A. Hinton.

Officers: President, Walter Miller; secretary, A. O. Tennis; treasurer, L. A. Fillmore. The last named man, L. A. Fillmore, was a fire fighter of experience having been a member of the Elsworth famous Fire Zouaves in Chicago, and was from the organization of the volunteer department in 1872 to the day the paid department was established in 1893 a member of the volunteer fire department.

#### THE JOPLIN EXPOSITION

In July, 1879, the Joplin Exposition Company was organized by the leading business men of Joplin and with the following officers: President, S. C. Henderson; vice president, John C. Guinn; secretary, T. A. McClelland; treasurer, P. Murphy; general superintendent, Isaac N. Lamb. A forty acre tract of land in the southwestern part of the city was purchased and a race track, agricultural hall, grandstand and stables were built. The first fair was held from October 14th to 18th inclusive and was a marked success.

#### HARMON'S FOUNDRY AND LECKIE'S MACHINE WORKS

1877 also saw the building of another important industry, the Harmon foundry. This institution was greatly welcomed in Joplin, because it brought to the mining district a plant where the mining machinery and heavy castings used in the mines could be made at home. The next year, William Leckie established the Joplin Machine Works and, in addition to a foundry, put in a complete machine shop and boiler works. These two plants gave Joplin excellent facilities for the making and quick repair of heavy machinery.

The following little sketch of the old Harmon Foundry was written for us by the proprietor; the proprietor of the Joplin foundry was Mr. W. S. Harmon, who came to Joplin in June, 1877, from Vandalia, Illinois, where he had operated a foundry for eleven years. "In coming to Joplin I experienced trouble in getting a location to build a foundry. No land owners wanted to sell what I wanted, one acre, and told me that Joplin was not a manufacturing but a mining town. There was not a manufactory here outside of the lead smelters. I was about to abandon the idea of building a foundry and go to Wichita, Kansas, when I met

Mr. E. R. Moffet, president of the Lone Elm Mining & Smelting Company, on June 3, 1877. He wanted to know what I was doing about building the foundry. My reply was 'I have the building contracted, but no place to put it.' Mr. Moffet's reply was: 'If that's all you want, select your location and I will give you a lease free for twenty-five years.' I asked him, 'When will you do it?' He said 'Tonight. Meet me at the company's office, Fourth and Main streets, and I will have our attorney, Mr. L. P. Cunningham, draw up the lease.' The lease being made, the first foundry building was commenced July 4, 1877, and the first iron was melted August 15, 1877. The first molders employed were John Frazer; John Rogers, now of the Rogers foundry; Lewis Lilley, apprentice; Robert Whittle, engineer. These men came with me from Vandalia, Illinois. The first patternmaker to work in Joplin was John McGuire.

"The foundry continued in successful operation until April 3, 1880. The White Lead Works were burned April 3, 1880, and this fire destroyed my foundry after I had successfully demonstrated that a foundry could be run here and made to pay. Just as quick as I could count my dollars, I contracted with Mr. Joseph Wooten to build me a store and brick building, one hundred by sixty feet, which was finished and put in operation August 20, 1880. I continued to operate this foundry and machine shop until September 1, 1886, when I leased it to Mr. John Schellenbeck for three years. During the time I operated the foundry I thought I made so much money that I would have to go to California to invest it. I went and returned in time to take my foundry and machine shop back from Mr. John Schellenbeck, and then continued to operate it until September 1, 1893. I then sold it to Messrs. James McKinney and Ross King, and, under their management the property was again destroyed by fire and never rebuilt."

#### THE SCHOOLS

East Joplin—At the spring election of 1877 Prof. S. A. Underwood, of the East Joplin school, was elected county school commissioner and was succeeded by James A. Race, who was a scholar of high attainments and whose administration was highly satisfactory. G. W. McKinney was principal of the school in 1878 and Theodore H. Riffey in 1879.

West Joplin—Prof. J. C. Mason of the Carthage schools was employed as superintendent of the West Joplin schools in the spring of 1877 and at once organized a high school in the Ferguson hall.

For the fall term the Christian church was rented and a canvas partition strung across the center of the church, thus dividing the main audience room into two parts. Professor Mason taught the high school in one end of the church and L. Z. Barr, the Christian minister, taught the seventh and eighth grades in the other end of the room. The Old Brick, the Fourth street frame and the Smelter Hill schools were also used, making a total of eight teachers in the West side school.

In the spring of 1878 the first public school exhibition took place in



the Tabernacle. One thousand people were in attendance. Miss Alma Sergeant, later Mrs. C. Crayeroft, read the salutatory address and Jack Dolan, C. B. Revis and others who later became prominent in Joplin life, took part. Before the arranging of a regular high school course of study it was customary for the pupils to go, before the county school commissioner and take the regular teacher's examination, the certificate, if granted, taking the place of a diploma. The first pupils in the Joplin school to take the examination and successfully pass were James R. Thomas and Fannie Paddock.

In 1878 Mrs. Milner established a Young Ladies Seminary and this was largely attended. In 1878 the original two rooms of the old Central building were constructed and Joplin closed out the first decade with five school buildings (in its three districts) and employed fourteen teachers.

#### CITY POLITICS

The following city officers served Joplin from October, 1877, to October, 1878: Mayor, F. E. Williams; councilmen—C. F. Taylor, C. J. G. Workizer, I. W. Gilbert, W. H. Kilgore, M. Clark, George Parks, W. L. Cole, E. Rayner (removed), L. M. Abbott (to fill vacancy) and A. W. Pyle (to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Ira W. Gilbert). Marshal, L. C. Hamilton; police judge, W. B. McAntire; city attorney, John C. Trigg; treasurer, G. W. Alway; clerk, J. P. Newell; collector, T. A. McClelland; assessor, P. L. Swartz; street commissioner, T. M. Fall.

The election of October, 1877, was a hot one. Sixteen hundred yards of muslin were used for banners and every candidate had from five to a dozen hacks with which to carry the voters to the polls.

Officers from October, 1878, to October, 1879: Mayor, R. M. Roberts; councilmen, W. H. Kilgore, C. T. Taylor, D. C. McConey, Geo. Parker, Julius Hewitt, J. E. Guthrey, William Allen and W. E. Manard; marshal, L. C. Hamilton, police judge, W. B. McAntire; city attorney, J. C. Trigg; treasurer, A. C. Pyle; city clerk, J. C. Chatterman; collector, F. E. Williams; assessor, J. W. Davis, and street commissioner, F. M. Fall.

A. C. Pyle, the treasurer, was a miner who had met with the misfortune of losing his eyesight by going back on a premature shot, and the boys in sympathy, although blind, elected him treasurer. The Miners' Bank kept the books for him and he drew the salary in the nature of a pension from the boys on the ground.

Officers from October, 1879, to October, 1880: Mayor, W. E. Maynard; councilmen, C. F. Taylor (removed), Thomas Connor (elected to fill the vacancy), W. L. Harris, Hugh Dyer, L. Horr, P. J. Cyphert, J. A. Hewitt, L. A. Fillmore and J. E. Guthrey; marshal, L. C. Hamilton; police judge, W. B. McAntire; city attorney, F. M. Redburn; treasurer, A. C. Pyle; city clerk, J. P. Newell; collector, F. E. Williams, and street commissioner, T. W. Fall.



## WILLIE WATSON'S CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

The following little story illustrates the tender side of the miner's life and is one of hundreds of pathetic incidents which might be related of early Joplin.

Among the men prominent in the early business life of Joplin was William Watson, who operated a bus and carriage line. During the quiet times of the later 'seventies his business fell off, and although not many people knew it, he was on the verge of financial ruin. For several days prior to Christmas of 1879 he had been morose and down-hearted and his old-time friends missed his droll stories and side-splitting jokes. Christmas eve he was standing in front of Billy Teet's saloon and some of the boys asked him why he was so quiet at so merry a time, and he told them of his business failure. Some one said, "Bill, why don't you hang up your stocking; maybe Santa will put something in it?" Bill replied that he believed he'd do it. It was a happy thought. A. B. McCarty, Matt Stafford, Kit Carson and a few others hurried out and got half a dozen gunny sacks and, making a large ten-foot stocking hung it in front of the Joplin Hotel and labeled it "Willie Watson's Stocking." What Bill intended for a joke now became a reality. His old butcher friend, Bill Beal, came by and dropped in the stocking several links of fresh bologna. A grocer came by and catching the spirit left a sack of flour. A feed man came and dropped by the stocking a couple of bales of hay and a hundred weight of chop. The fever was catching and every man who went by put something in the stocking, or on the ground near by, and Christmas morning Bill Watson took to his barn two wagon loads of feed, groceries and wearing apparel which had been given him, and he used to say that the little bit of a joke tided him over the crisis.

## RIVALRY BETWEEN JOPLIN AND CARTHAGE

During the 'seventies and the 'eighties there was considerable rivalry between Joplin and Carthage and the papers of each occasionally took a good natured dig at each other. The following little clipping from the *News* in August, 1878, illustrates the pleasure the papers took in commenting on each other: "A couple of Joplin men went up to the county seat several nights ago, became somewhat hilarious and created an excitement second only to the hanging of Ables. The good old burg of Carthage makes a nine-day wonder over a little affair like the kicking over of a stove, smashing a few chairs, stopping telegraphic communication for a few minutes, and a three-dollar fine in the police court. Wait until the M. & W. opens its heart and gives Joplin an excursion, and then call out the Light Guards."

## WEBB CITY

Webb City, the second city of Jasper county in point of population, like Joplin, had its beginning in the 'seventies and came into existence as a result of the great mining industry. John C. Webb was the founder

of the city and around his name clusters the early history of that important mining center.

Mr. Webb was a native of Tennessee and the second of a large family of children. He was brought up on the farm and received his education in the log schoolhouses of that day. In January, 1849, he married Miss Ruth T. Davis. In 1856 he and his wife came to Jasper county and settled near the head of Turkey creek, the Webb cemetery east of Harmony Grove being on the old home place.

In 1857 he entered two hundred acres of land where the original Webb City was later laid out. At that time, however, Mr. Webb never dreamed that the land for which he paid the government a few hundred dollars would ere long yield him a snug fortune. He gradually added to his original entry until he was, at the beginning of Webb City, the owner of half a section.

During the war he served in the Confederate army, responding to Governor Jackson's call for volunteers to defend Missouri and entering the southern army at the expiration of his term of service with the State Guard. After the war he returned home and again worked his farm.

#### LEAD DISCOVERED

In June, 1873, while plowing corn, he accidentally turned up a good sized chunk of lead and in the fall, when the crops were in, began prospecting, but with little success on account of the water. The next year he put in his crop as usual and after it was gathered purchased a pump and other necessary machinery and, in the parlance of the miner "beat the water." The pump worked to perfection and in a few days the water was out and the shaft drained sufficiently to go in the ground. The second day after he began work in the old shaft a chunk of lead weighing over one thousand pounds was hoisted. From then until now the mining industry has been pushed and today the mines of Webb City have a world-wide reputation.

In July, 1875, Mr. Webb platted the original town of Webb City. In the original dedication Mr. Webb reserved a block for a church and public school site, the old Central building standing on the block donated by the founder of the city. Webb City grew so rapidly that the next year four additions to the city were platted and in 1877 six more additions were opened to the public. During that year the city had a building boom and at the close of its first five years growth had some two thousand inhabitants—1,588 within the city limits and from 400 to 600 just outside, but properly a part of the town.

Mr. Webb did not mine the land on which he discovered the first lead, but leased it to a company, and before he died was one of the county's millionaires, made so by the royalties from the mines and the sale of town lots.

#### G. P. ASHCRAFT

G. P. Ashcraft was the first man to sink a shaft on the Center Creek land and also marketed the first carload of ore from the Webb City dis-

trict. The following little reminiscence which appeared in the *Joplin Daily Globe*, Sunday, July 30, 1875, illustrates the important part Mr. Ashcraft played in the early history of Webb City.

In having the man who "windlassed," cleaned and shipped the first wagon-load of ore ever marketed from here, and then within less than forty years witnessing the growth of the mines on that particular bit of ground expand until now over ten million dollars' worth of ore has been shipped from the Center creek mines, probably gave Granville P. Ashcraft, the pioneer who died a few days ago, a much better chance to witness the activities and accomplishments of life than did Methuselah, reputed to have spent more years on earth than any other man on record.

For in these days of modern achievement, the events of a man's life follow each other with such lightening-like rapidity that a single year in the century now passing has become much more than the equivalent of one hundred years in the patriarchal days when that oldest man of ancient history moved along his quiet and uneventful path.

The distinction that came to Mr. Ashcraft, of making the first sale of lead from Webb City, was, however, like many of the events that make history for individuals and communities, more of chance than of design. For the writer well remembers how, in a conversation with this pioneer citizen whose death all Webb City mourns, he recalled how his coming to Webb City, instead of prospecting elsewhere, was very much the whim of a moment.

"It was because I got mad," said Mr. Ashcraft, "over some things about a deal in Oronogo, that I threw up a lease for \$50 when, only a few weeks before, I had paid \$1,500 for it. That was how it happened that I came to Webb City, and have remained here the rest of my life, instead of working in the original shaft of what afterwards became the Oronogo Circle mines."

Only a few of the older men of Webb City are still living to give their personal recollection of the beginning of the mines in Webb City. Benjamin F. Hatcher, who has been in Jasper county fifty-four years, is one of the few survivors, and he certainly had as good a chance of knowing as any of the pioneers of the early 70's, for he was the man who helped pull the water out of that first shaft from which "mineral" was hoisted, and thus assisted in the foundation work of the immense mining industry now so firmly established.

"When Grant Ashcraft came over from Oronogo and undertook to sink the shaft on Center creek, where there had been the first lead find in this district," says Mr. Hatcher, "I started with him to run the pump. My recollection is that it took a relay of seven horses, working each horse for two or three hours at a time, to keep the pump going, and all we had then was literally 'horse power.' It wasn't much of a shaft, as we should think now. It was something less than thirty feet deep, and some lead had been taken out, that was in the dump, but none had been sold. It looked very doubtful about getting any more, as the water was so strong it came out of the top of the hole within a few hours whenever the pump stopped. We kept at it until he got enough out to make several sales of lead, but under great difficulty, and when there was high water there was nothing doing.

"People didn't know much about pumps in those days, not around here, anyway, and I remember that Thomas N. Davey, then and for a long time after in the foundry business at Carthage, devised a new kind of pump that he had hoped would prove adequate to the water proposition, as we should call it now, at Center creek. But it didn't work; and for years there was little else but discouragement as to continuous work, for when the 'pump shaft' was down, none of the numerous prospectors were able to get in the ground. Among those interested in working this shaft in the early days were Ben Webb and John C. Webb, on whose land the discovery was made; Thomas N. Davey, W. A. Daugherty, S. B. Corn, of Joplin, and a practical miner, named Mike Jones, who came here from Oronogo."



Being the first man to mine and ship lead ore from the locality that afterwards became Webb City was not Grant Ashcraft's only distinction. When he came there was nothing in sight but the log house of John C. Webb, for whom the town was named. By the time Webb City was incorporated in 1875, Mr. Ashcraft had laid the foundation of his fortune to a sufficient extent to become the purchaser of the largest number of city lots, consisting of the greater part of the block bounded by Daugherty, John, Pennsylvania and Ball streets. At one corner of this tract of the original town site, he built the first frame house, adding others on the vacant lots later on, and living in one of them from those early days until within the last couple of years. He was, therefore, the first house-builder and lived on the site of his first choice nearly thirty-five years.

While Mr. Ashcraft was a native of Missouri, being born in that part of the original Bates county which afterward became the county of Cass, he spent his early manhood in California, on a ranch belonging to Granville Swift. As Swift lived on the next farm to that on which Mr. Ashcraft's parents resided at the time he was born, and it was for him he was named Granville, although 99 per cent of his friends knew him all through his life as "Grant."

It was a visit that his brother, Samuel P. Ashcraft, made by stage to California in 1864, that brought "Grant" back to Missouri. The trip, from start to return, occupied from January 19 until March 4, and no time was lost in the journey.

"It was while he was on Swift's ranch in California," says Sam Ashcraft, "that he acquired his love of horse flesh that became one of his characteristic hobbies all through life. 'Grant' knew a good horse as well as any man in Jasper county, perhaps, and no end of stories could be told of his venturesome and daredevil exploits.

"One day in the early days of the old 'Red Plant,' a Frisco train was passing when he was on his way to Webb City. He made a bet with the man who was riding with him that he could beat the train to town. No doubt he did his best to win the bet, as was shown by the fact that in his mad race he killed a cow on the roadway and had to pay the owner for the loss of the animal, besides getting unmercifully 'joshed' by his friends for years afterwards.

"One of my brother's characteristics was that he always backed his own judgment, rarely told any one what he intended to do in business matters and never asked advice of anybody. He was a hard man to persuade into anything, but when once he gave his word, everyone knew that he could be relied upon to do just what he said."

### THE TOMS SMELTER

In 1876 Mr. William Toms built a lead furnace on Bens branch between Webb City and Carterville and this was operated until 1880, when it was destroyed by fire.

### WEBB CITY'S FIRST ELECTION

Webb City had grown to such an extent that during the presidential campaign of 1876 the county court designated it as a voting precinct and at its first election went Democratic, the vote being as follows: Hayes, Republican, 142; Tilden, Democratic, 195; Cooper, Greenbacker, 4.

### WEBB CITY AS A TOWN

In December, 1876, the citizens of Webb City petitioned the county court to incorporate that place as a town and accordingly on the 11th



day of December the court formally granted the petition and issued a decree to that effect. W. A. Ashcraft, O. Jacobs, James Smith, J. E. McNair and R. A. Sterling were appointed the first board of trustees.

The same evening the board was sworn into office and organized by the election of J. E. McNair as president; I. Brunnin, as clerk; W. A. Ashcraft, as treasurer, D. H. Thomas, as collector; L. Mark, city marshal, and R. L. Thomas as city attorney. The first ordinance of the city was drafted by Attorney Thomas.

### J. E. MCNAIR

James E. McNair, the first executive officer of Webb City, was a native of North Carolina and of Scotch descent. He was born December 13, 1833. His father was a Revolutionary patriot, having served in the Continental army during the entire seven years of hostilities. Mr. McNair's boyhood was spent in the south, having lived in Mississippi and Tennessee before the War between the States. In the spring of '52 he caught the gold fever and started to cross the plains enroute for California. Arriving at Bates county, this state, he became ill and was obliged to leave the party of overland tourists, and remained in that county until 1854 when he had regained his health. Still determined to go to the gold fields, he hired to Henry Riggs as a cowboy and crossed the plains that summer, helping to drive a herd of cattle to Sacramento. He returned to Tennessee in 1859 and began the study of medicine.

Mr. McNair had been brought up an Andrew Jackson Democrat, but when Fort Sumter was fired upon he cast his lot with the north and enlisted in the First West Tennessee U. S. Volunteers. On account of sickness he was discharged from the service in the fall of 1864 and the next year was elected a member of the legislature of Tennessee. In 1865 he was elected a delegate to the Southern Loyalists convention which met in Philadelphia, and there urged the extending of the right hand of fellowship to the defeated states. During the war he was married to Miss Patience Flippen, a charming Tennessee belle.

In 1869 he came to Missouri and worked for the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway in the capacity of a bridge carpenter, coming to Oronogo in that railway's employ in 1874. In 1875, when John C. Webb laid out the town of Webb City, Mr. McNair came to the place which then was only represented by the surveyor's pegs in the ground, and built for Mr. Webb the first house. On January 13, 1877, after having served the city as mayor for one month and two days, Mr. McNair was appointed postmaster of Webb City, which office had just been established, and resigned his position as a member of the board of trustees. F. Ball was appointed trustee to fill the vacancy and (vice Chairman James Smith) filled out the remainder of the term as president of the board. During the administration of Messrs. McNair and Smith order was established and the preliminaries of the founding of a city government gone through with.

## SPRING ELECTION 1877

In April, 1877, the first regular election for trustees occurred and the following were chosen: George H. Smith, H. Vincent, John Pratt, M. J. Faubin and W. A. Ashcraft.

The new board organized by electing George H. Smith, chairman; D. H. Endrickson, city clerk; Charles Metcalf, treasurer; David Carant, marshal, and William H. Metheny, city attorney. Mr. Metheny resigned before the expiration of his term and L. A. Thomas, the first attorney, was appointed to fill out his unexpired term.

## AS A FOURTH-CLASS CITY

On the 28th day of February, 1878, the town voted on a proposition to incorporate as a city of the fourth class and the proposition carried by a majority of three votes. At the regular city election in April, 1878, the following officers were elected: Mayor, Ben C. Webb; aldermen, H. L. Shafer, J. M. Whitworth, A. J. Sinclair and A. F. Scott; marshal, David Currant.

The appointive officers were Charles Metcalf, treasurer; J. C. Columbia, collector; S. D. McPherson, attorney. Before the end of the year Mr. Metcalf resigned as city clerk and J. E. McNair, the first Elm board of trustees, was appointed. At the election in 1879 Mr. Webb was reelected mayor and the following gentlemen served as aldermen: Waller Tholborn, R. S. Gaston, D. J. Horn and M. Worden.

John W. Vermillion succeeded Mr. Currian as marshal. The appointive officers were the same as in 1878, save the collector, J. W. Caldwell, who succeeded Mr. Columbia.

## TAX LITIGATION

The early city administration did not have all smooth sailing in building up and beautifying the young city.

The first city council, or rather board of trustees, planned great things, among which were the thorough policing of the town and the improvement of the streets. On account of the many needed improvements, the young town levied a tax which was slightly in excess of the constitutional limit. The city taxes could not be levied and collected until the regular time of assessment, in the meantime anticipating returns from the tax levy, policemen were hired and they, with other help were paid in city warrants. When the time came for collecting the tax the levy was contested by some of the people and, at the trial, declared by the court to be illegal. As a result the city government did not receive the anticipated revenue for 1877 and 1878. City warrants went down to fifty cents on the dollar and the wheels of government for a time were almost stopped. It was then that the proposition was submitted to organize as a corporation of the fourth class, which would allow the levy necessary to carry on the business of the city. The proposition carried by three majority and in 1879, and the city collected its taxes for the first time.

## FIRST CHURCH IN WEBB CITY

The first work for the Methodist in Webb City was begun by a little band of Presbyterians—W. A. Wheatley, C. S. Manker and — Van Pelt, who with their good wife organized a union Sunday school at Webb's Hall in the latter part of 1876. The school from the first day was a success, not only in point of number, but in the interest manifested. W. A. Wheatley was its superintendent.

The attendance grew so rapidly that it was necessary to secure a larger place of meeting and permission was given to use the new school-house that recently had been completed. And here the work was carried on during 1877-8. At the time the Sunday school moved to the school-house it numbered over two hundred regular attendants, the primary class, in charge of Mrs. W. A. Wheatley, containing forty-two little tots.

The matter of organizing a church was now agitated and from this union Sunday school grew later the First Presbyterian church of Webb City, which was organized March 27, 1877, with eight members. Messrs. Wheatley, Manker and Van Pelt, who had taken the initiative in the organization of the Sunday school, were elected the first session of the new church.

During the remaining 'seventies, the church did not have a regular pastor, but the Rev. D. K. Campbell, of Joplin, preached to the congregation, which grew slowly but surely, every Sunday afternoon, until after he closed his ministerial work in Joplin. In 1879 the society, which now had grown to twenty-six, purchased a building on Allen street which had been erected for a saloon, fitted it up for a church and there worshiped until the latter 'eighties.

During the pioneer days of Webb City the church exerted a great influence. Its choir—the famous Stevenson-Wheatley quartette, consisting of W. A. Wheatley and wife and Prof. J. M. Stevenson and wife—won great distinction, singing at all of the principal gatherings over the county. In April, 1879, the Ozark Presbyterians met in the Webb City church. One other little incident might be mentioned which shows the influence that the church exerted on the community.

During the winter of 1877-8 there was a great amount of sickness in Webb City, due partly to the inclemency of the weather and partly to the lack of proper shelter, and quite a number died of pneumonia. Mrs. Wheatley and Mrs. Hull, both active workers in the church, were ministering angels who went out and helped care for the afflicted. Many a sick room was cheered by the kindly attentions of these two church workers. In those days there was no undertaker in Webb City, and when death entered the home of a friend they came and, with loving hands, helped prepare the body for burial. Thus, as they performed these kindly acts of love and tenderness, they reflected credit on the church, whose deaconesses they were.



## ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Webb City School district was organized in 1876 and a substantial four-room frame schoolhouse was built during the winter of 1876-7 on the site of the old Central High School building.

Prof. Dickey, late of the Carthage schools, was the first principal, did a good work of organization and remained in charge of the school to the close of the 'seventies.

## THE BLUNT RAID

A few weeks after the city government of Webb City had been organized the town experienced an excitement, which, for a day, resembled a western cowboy raid. On January 25, 1877, James Missick of Carterville came over to Webb City and, having imbibed too freely, became hilarious and was placed in jail by Marshal Marks and his deputy. Hearing of his incarceration a party of his friends came over to Webb City and attempted to take Missick from jail, but did not succeed. Later, however, bail was procured and the party returned to Carterville. The next morning four of the friends of Missick came over to Webb City, bent on raiding the town, but nothing was done save to hang around the saloons and threaten the mayor and police. That afternoon the party returned, this time having been reinforced to seven, and galloped through the streets at full-speed, firing promiscuously at people on the thoroughfares. Uriah Fishburn, "Monkeywrench" Jones and several others were shot, but none of them were killed and a horse was shot from under one of the raiders by the marshal. The marshal then rode to Oronogo and telegraphed to Sheriff Beamer for help and in the evening the sheriff, with two hack-loads of special deputies, came to Webb City for the purpose of restoring order. Their presence was not needed, however, as the raiders had departed. A number of persons were arrested for complicity in the affair, but no convictions were ever made. Two of the raiders, who could not give bonds, were taken to Carthage and placed in the county jail and while they were confined there, at a time when all the deputies were away excepting the jailer, they overpowered him, escaped and were never retaken.

George Hudson, one of the gang, gave bonds for his appearance and was discharged for want of evidence. The strangeness of fate, which allowed him to go unpunished, was as follows. Uriah Fishburn had been shot by Hudson during the raid and he was the principal witness for the state. On the morning of the trial, before going to the court room, Mr. Fishburn went out to his mine to give directions for the day, and while showing one of the miners how to do a certain piece of work was caught in a large wheel in the machinery at the plant and instantly killed. When the trial came on, there was no witness for the state and the case was dismissed.

George Hudson was killed by a sheriff in Colorado while resisting an arrest.



## CARTERVILLE

Webb City and Carterville are often spoken of as the Twin Cities and very properly so, for they both came into existence the same year; both are sustained by the same great industry and, except to those who are familiar with the dividing line between the two towns, it is hard to tell just where Webb City ends and Carterville begins; for Ben's branch, which is between the two towns, wends its way in its meanderings first one side and then the other of the imaginary line which divides the two municipalities.

The land on which the original town of Carterville was built belonged to a farmer named Carter, who was a neighbor of Mr. Jno. C. Webb and who, with him, tilled the soil during the early 'seventies.

The first business and mining activities in Carterville were commenced by W. A. Daugherty, and to him, perhaps more than any other men, belongs the credit of developing the mines of the Carterville district during the early days of the town, where pluck and perseverance were required to make good.

As related in our Webb City story, the first discovery of lead in the Webb City-Carterville district was made by John C. Webb and in the valley which lies between the two towns.

The chunk of lead which Mr. Webb ploughed up was taken by him to W. A. Daugherty for inspection. That gentleman pronounced it lead and, at Mr. Webb's request, entered into a partnership with him to sink a shaft and develop the land.

The task of "beating the water" was the great problem. Frequently, on coming to work in the morning, they would find the shaft filled with water almost to the top, so near, in fact, that it could be dipped out with a bucket. After a pump was secured and the ground well drained, they began the work of cribbing the shaft. In sinking the shaft to a considerable depth they struck no lead, excepting to pass through a strata of the ore not more than an inch thick. Mr. Webb was somewhat discouraged and sold his interest to G. P. Ashcraft.

When Messrs. Daugherty and Webb were cribbing the shaft, at the place where they had passed through the strata of lead Mr. Daugherty took a hatchet and cut three crosses in the cribbing to mark the spot.

When Mr. Ashcraft bought Mr. Webb's interest he inquired of Mr. Daugherty what signs of mineral he had noticed other than the chunk which Mr. Webb had ploughed up, and, on being told of the small vein which they had passed through, asked Mr. Daugherty to lower him in the tub to the place where the crosses were cut.

Mr. Ashcraft, who was an experienced miner, took out a piece of the cribbing and, after first making a sort of a doorway in it drilled three or four holes in the side of the shaft and put in a charge of powder and a fuse. Before touching off the shot, however, a temporary platform was built just below the drill holes. The fuse was lighted and Mr. Ashcraft told Mr. Daugherty to "hist away." Scarcely had he reached

the top of the shaft when the charge exploded, throwing lead and rocks in all directions. When the smoke had cleared away Mr. Ashcraft descended the shaft and, finding the platform literally covered with great chunks of lead, called Mr. Daugherty to see the sight. This shot opened up an entrance to a cave-like pocket which was almost a solid mass of lead. This was the beginning of the mining activities; the miners who first came to work the ground, settled on the land just east of the mines, and naturally the place was called Carterville.

Mr. Daugherty secured land from Mr. Carter and platted a town, the field notes and plat being filed for record September 10, 1875. He also built the first store in Carterville. Two additions to the place were laid out in the spring of 1876, and by the close of the Centennial year the town numbered fully five hundred inhabitants.

#### CARTERVILLE'S FIRST CHURCH

In the spring of 1876 the Rev. Jasper A. Smith, a Methodist minister, came to Carterville and organized the first Methodist church. The church met in a rented hall until 1882, when a lot was secured on Daugherty street and a church home commenced. On May 13, 1883, just as the building was nearing completion, it was demolished by a tornado. Three days later, however, the congregation met and laid plans for the rebuilding of the church, which was completed toward the close of the year.

#### TOWN OF CARTERVILLE ORGANIZED

In the spring of 1877 the citizens petitioned the county court to incorporate the town of Carterville as a municipality. The first board of trustees comprised J. A. Wilson, W. A. Daugherty, Joseph Manlove, A. N. McReynolds and J. O. Rose. The board was organized April 17, 1877, with J. A. Wilson as chairman and J. R. Bailey, clerk. J. S. Wilson was appointed marshal, E. S. Carries, treasurer, and Joseph Fountain, city attorney.

After organizing the city government quite a number of people thought that the municipality was an unnecessary expense and the board of trustees did not meet again from September 6, 1877, until April, 1882, when the municipality was reorganized.

The history of Carterville will be taken up again in the chapter on the 'Eighties, when the town pushed rapidly to the front.

#### ORONOGO

Oronogo continued to grow during the 'seventies. On August 4, 1873, a single chunk of lead was uncovered only eight feet below the surface. It weighed 60,000 pounds, and sold for \$5,000 making the two lucky miners rich in a day.

On November 13th of this same year Alfred T. Oran was lynched by a mob of masked men. He had attempted to rob the house of a man named Hunter and was suspected of having committed a number of lawless acts in and around Oronogo.

In 1876, the Centennial year, Oronogo was incorporated as a town, W. T. Duncan being the first chairman of its board of trustees.

During the same year the Masonic fraternity of Oronogo celebrated St. John's Day, June 24th, and a picnic and ceremonial was held in the grove. D. M. Whitworth, C. E. Elliott and J. W. Board were in charge of the exercises and every detail was carried out in a manner that reflected great credit on the committee.

#### OTHER TOWNS

Beside the founding of Joplin, Webb City and Carterville, five other towns also sprang into existence—Midway, later called Jasper; Scotland, Carl Junction, Waco and Alba.

Midway was so called because it was midway between Carthage and Lamar. Scotland, eight miles east of Joplin was named in honor of Rev. Scott, who lived on the land where lead was first struck. During the middle seventies Scotland had upwards of 500 people and three lead smelters were in operation.

Carl Junction and Waco came with the building of the Joplin and Girard Railway. Carl Junction was founded by Charles Carl and, being at the crossing of the 'Frisco and Joplin & Girard, was called Carl Junction.

Alba situated on Spring River four miles northeast of Orongo was a Quaker settlement and at first distinctively a farming community. A more extended mention of Carl Junction and Alba will be made in our later chapters, when these places came into greater prominence.





Decade  
of the  
Eighties

# CENSUS OF 1880

Duval Township .....	946
*Galena Township .....	6,966
**Joplin Township .....	5,322
Jackson Township .....	1,416
Jasper Township .....	884
Lincoln Township .....	815
McDonald Township .....	1,181
Madison Township .....	1,234
***Marion Township .....	5,316
****Mineral Township .....	1,892
Preston Township .....	1,048
*****Sarcoxie Township .....	1,545
Sheridan Township .....	913
Twin Grove Township .....	1,110
Union Township .....	1,431
	<hr/>
	32,019

\*Joplin City in Galena and Joplin townships, 7,038.

\*\*Including Webb City, 1,588.

\*\*\*Including Carthage, 4,167.

\*\*\*\*Including Oronogo, 700.

\*\*\*\*\*Including Sarcoxie, 341.

## CHAPTER XXI

### COUNTY POLITICS

THE "BOYS IN BLUE"—"329" PRESENTATION TO COL. W. F. CLOUD—CAMPAIGN OF 1882—1884-8—LOCAL OPTION ELECTION 1887—COURT HOUSE ELECTIONS—CAMPAIGN OF 1888—WEBB CITY DEMOCRATIC FLAMBEAU CLUB—COUNTY SCHOOLS IN THE 'EIGHTIES—J. M. STEVENSON 1887-93—THE JASPER COUNTY TEACHERS' NORMAL.

The presidential campaign of 1880 was a most exciting one. The tariff question was a prominent factor and many members of the Greenback party voted with the Republicans on account of the peculiar interest of the miners and sheepraisers in that issue. Col. J. W. Campbell of Carthage, a prominent member of the Greenback party, went back to his old love and took with him many of the Greenbackers.

Shortly before the close of the campaign a fusion was effected between the Republicans and Greenbackers which resulted in a combination ticket being elected. Colonel Cloud, the Republican chairman, pushed the work of organization and led his party to victory, the Republican-Greenback county ticket being elected by 1,200 majority. The important features of the fusion were as follows: The Republicans supported Ira S. Haseltine of Greene county for congress, and placed on their ticket I. C. Hodson for member of the county court, Western district of Jasper county, and J. M. Ralston for assessor. The Greenbackers, in turn, supported M. C. McGregor of Carthage for circuit judge.

#### "BOYS IN BLUE"

One of the important factors in this campaign, locally, was the "Boys in Blue"—a political marching club formed at Carthage by Col. J. W. Campbell, which participated in and created much enthusiasm at the Republican Rally and in Republican rallies all over the country, appearing at Carthage, Webb City, Joplin and other places. The organization numbered some 600 uniformed men and was officered as follows:

#### FIELD AND STAFF OFFICERS.

J. W. Campbell, colonel commanding; T. B. Tuttle, lieutenant colonel; Thomas Buckbee, major; S. B. Ormsby, captain and adjutant; Newell Mix, captain and commissary; J. M. Hurley, surgeon; L. F. Brown, treasurer and paymaster.

#### ROSTER OF COMPANIES.

Company A—Captain J. B. Hutchens; first lieutenant, Charles Pool; second lieutenant, N. A. Floyd.

Company B—Captain, Jesse Rhoads; first lieutenant, J. W. Hart; second lieutenant, D. E. W. Smith.

Company C—Captain, John Edgington; first lieutenant, James Blue; second lieutenant, Jerry Garnett.

Company D—Captain, E. B. Reeder; first lieutenant, J. W. Taylor; second lieutenant, W. B. Wyman.

Company E—Captain, J. F. Higgins; first lieutenant, J. J. Heim; second lieutenant, Charles Smith.

Artillery—Captain, E. W. Hilliard. One six pound gun.

The vote in Jasper county was as follows: Garfield, Republican, 2,874; Hancock, Democrat, 2,532; Weaver, Greenback, 1,111.

The following composed the successful county ticket: Circuit judge, Hon. M. C. McGregor; representative, D. A. Preston; prosecuting attorney, T. B. Haughawout; collector, Harry Hubbard; assessor, J. M. Ralston; treasurer, A. H. Caffee; surveyor, Kos. Elliott; public administrator, Isaac Fountain; coroner, Barney Bristow; judges county court, (East district), J. I. Hall, and (West district), I. N. Hodson; sheriff, R. M. Roberts.

After the election the Republicans of the county presented Colonel Cloud with a gold headed cane as a testimonial of their appreciation of the efficient work he had done for the party. The *Carthage Banner* makes the following mention of the presentation in its issue of November 25, 1880.

### 329\*

#### PRESENTATION TO COL. W. F. CLOUD

To-day, the 329th day of the year, a number of the personal and political friends of Col. Cloud took possession of his office, found him absent, sent a committee in search of him, found him after an hour's search, and proceeded to the business of the hour. Among those present we noticed Col. Campbell, Mr. Cooper, Maj. Moore, Capt. Tuttle, Capt. Buckbee, John Brownsill, T. A. Wakefield, Henry Miller, Prof. Cabot, Mr. Cholwell, T. B. Haughawout, W. C. Bates, J. D. Clarkson and Mr. Chase.

Col. Campbell advanced to the front and in a few very appropriate remarks, presented to Col. Cloud a heavy and very finely engraved gold watch, and solid gold chain and charm, purchased from Messrs. Cooper and Kirke at one hundred and fifty dollars. On the inside case is the following inscription:

"329.

"Presented to W. F. Cloud, by Republican friends of Carthage, Mo.

"Nov. 1880."

Col. Cloud was visibly affected when the costly gift was placed in his hands, and his response was at times almost overcome by his feelings. He had been kept in ignorance of the intention of his friends and was completely taken by surprise. He returned his thanks in a happy manner and distributed the credit which had been ascribed to him, impartially among his party associates all of whom he regarded as having done their duty, and that he had done nothing more. The Colonel has endeared himself to his friends and richly merits the confidence which their action to-day implies. The BANNER congratulates him upon his success, and the party upon his chairmanship.

\*The "329" engraved on the watch refers to the 329 delegates to the National Republican Committee who voted for General Grant for a third term for the presidency, and who loyally supported Garfield after his nomination. Colonel Cloud had been originally a Grant man.



## THE CAMPAIGN OF 1882

In 1882 the Democrats and Greenbackers joined in the organization of a party which was known locally as the Anti-Monopoly party and elected the greater portion of the county ticket by small majorities.

The following were the successful candidates, the figures given being their majorities: Circuit clerk, I. C. Hodson, Anti-Monopoly, 325; recorder of deeds, J. P. Newell, Anti-Monopoly, 449; county clerk, John N. Wilson, Anti-Monopoly, 83; sheriff, R. M. Robens, Republican, 256; prosecuting attorney, T. B. Haughwaut, Republican, 83; probate judge, W. H. Kilgore, Anti-Monopoly, 375; county treasurer, W. S. Carson, Anti-Monopoly, 277.

The straight party vote cast at the election, based on supreme judge, was as follows: Republican, 2,827; Democratic, 2,390; Greenback, 852.

## 1884-6

In 1884 the Republicans and Greenbackers in the state joined forces and nominated Hon. Nicholas Ford of St. Joseph for governor. The Greenback party did not nominate a full county ticket, but the members generally voted with the Republicans who elected their ticket with the exception of the two candidates for the legislature and the candidate for assessor.

The following were the successful candidates: sheriff, John C. Bailey, Joplin; collector, Robert H. Hottle, Sarcoxie; prosecuting attorney, William Robinson, Webb City; county commissioners, J. M. Ralston, Madison township, and W. B. Halyard, Joplin; assessor, Ashcraft (D), Webb City; county clerk, Jesse Rhodes, Carthage; surveyor, E. O. Miles, Joplin; public administrator, Isaac Fountain, Oronogo; representative (Eastern district), William Randal (D); representative (Western district), S. H. Claycomb (D).

The vote on president was as follows: Blaine, Republican, 4,128; Cleveland, Democrat, 3,311. It will be remembered that at this election Cleveland was elected president the first time and the Democrats of the county, as elsewhere, went wild with excitement; jollification meetings were had in every city, town and hamlet. W. H. Phelps of Carthage was this year chosen as one of Missouri's delegates to the national convention of the Democratic party and supported Cleveland for the nomination.

1886 was an off-year. Nothing especially out of the ordinary occurred during the campaign and a mixed ticket was elected, each of the two great parties securing a part of the important offices.

The following gentlemen were victorious at the polls: Sheriff, John C. Bailey, reelected; circuit clerk, B. F. Hackney, reelected; county clerk, Jesse Rhodes, reelected; recorder of deeds, R. C. Friend, reelected; probate judge, W. H. Kilgore, reelected; prosecuting attorney, William Robinson, reelected; collector, A. H. Hattel, reelected; assessor, W. T. Burkhalter, reelected; treasurer, James M. Spence,

reelected; presiding judge, county court, J. M. Werks; associate justice, Eastern district, Wesley Ralston; associate justice, Western district, C. J. Hubble; representative Eastern district, C. M. Etter; representative, Western district, David Hopkins; coroner, Jesse Adams.

#### LOCAL OPTION ELECTION 1887

At the session of the general assembly for 1887 the Local Option law now on the statute book was passed and Jasper county was one of the first counties to vote on the question of forbidding the sale of liquor in the county. The temperance people made a vigorous schoolhouse campaign and won by a majority of 1,514.

Joplin, Webb City, Carterville and Carthage were not included in the totals as, under the terms of the law, they were not included in the territory affected. Carthage voted on the proposition and also shut out the saloon.

The following was the official vote at this election:

	For license.	Against license.
Lincoln township .....	5	102
Sheridan township .....	21	87
Jasper City .....	27	92
Preston .....	5	54
Duval township .....	51	60
Medoc .....	40	59
Waco .....	37	21
Lehigh .....	31	78
Carl Junction .....	72	121
Alba .....	13	65
Oronogo .....	53	183
Marion, west .....	16	152
Marion, east .....	1	17
Madison township .....	3	110
McDonald township .....	37	122
Sarcoxie, east .....	74	172
Sarcoxie, west .....	6	42
Union township .....	5	111
Jackson township .....	12	80
East Joplin prect. ....	36	60
Webb City prect. ....	9	17
Carterville .....	62	243
Galena township, Fourth ward. ....	39	33
Lone Elm .....	27	4
Howard .....	78	189
Total.....	760	2,274
Majority.....		1,514

#### COURT HOUSE ELECTIONS

Twice during the 'eighties the people voted on a proposition to build a court house and each time the proposition was voted down. At the first election the proposition was defeated by Joplin because of the

belief that the appropriation would not be sufficient to construct a suitable building at Joplin. The county also voted almost solidly against the issue being opposed, especially in the eastern district, to two court houses.

At the second election in 1887 Webb City defeated the proposition, it being their idea to have a criminal court at that place. The vote at the second election was "for," 1,813; "against," 3,116.

#### CAMPAIGN OF 1888

The campaign of 1888 was by far more interesting than the last one and in point of excitement was more lively than any other election of the decade.

Torch-light processions and rallies were had in all of the cities and a vigorous schoolhouse campaign was carried out.

The following was the presidential vote: Harrison, Republican, 4,523; Cleveland, Democrat, 3,685; Streeter, Union Labor, 985; Fisk, Prohibition, 68.

The following county ticket was elected: representative (Eastern district), John Flannigan, Republican; representative (Western district), Joseph Fountain, Republican; sheriff, J. C. Miller, Republican; collector, L. M. Murphy, Republican; prosecuting attorney, J. H. Dryden, Democrat; judge Eastern district, Thos. McNalley, Republican; judge Western district, C. J. Hubbell, Republican; treasurer, John Garland, Republican; coroner, J. W. Stemmons, Republican; assessor, W. C. Cohenour, Republican; surveyor, George Bradford; public administrator, Isaac Fountain.

#### WEBB CITY DEMOCRATIC FLAMBEAU CLUB

In each of the presidential campaigns the two old parties usually held half a dozen or more great rallies at some point in the county, and in these the manœuverings and displays of the organized marching clubs always creates excitement and helps to stir the enthusiasm of the members of the party to the highest pitch.

We noted in our chapter on the 'seventies the excitement caused by the Hayes Light Guard and in this article, in narrating the happenings of the campaign of 1880, the enthusiasm caused by the marching club known as the "Boys in Blue." In the campaign of 1888 there appeared an organization known as the "Webb City Democratic Flambeau Club," which has been an important factor in every campaign from that time to this, the body never having been disbanded.

The officers of the club were: Captain, A. A. Heulett; first lieutenant, D. R. Mock; second lieutenant, W. S. Chinn; first sergeant and secretary, Dr. McBride; bugler, E. E. Spracklin.

The Club had an attractive uniform of white duck with red helmets, leggings and other trappings to match. The Company numbered one hundred and fifty men and by nightly drills during the early part of

the campaign they became a splendidly drilled organization and wherever they went set the crowd of spectators wild with excitement. During the eleven campaigns in which they have participated they have marched in almost a hundred demonstrations.

To illustrate the popularity of this organization as a political marching club, we relate the following incident which occurred during the campaign of 1892: The Democrats of Columbus, Kansas, had planned to close the campaign with a monster rally on the Saturday night before the election, Saturday in a farming community being the day best fitted to get the people to town. The Webb City Flambeau Club was invited to lead this great procession, but had declined on account of its being Saturday night. Those living in the mining community will readily understand what Saturday night is, in a business way, to Joplin, Webb City, and Carterville.

The Columbus Democracy were greatly disappointed at the declination of the Webb City Flambeau Club and sent a committee to urge the attendance of that celebrated organization, but Captain Heulett said that it would be impossible to get together enough men to make a creditable showing, as fully one-half would receive their week's pay after 5 o'clock—and the business men themselves could not afford to leave their stores.

R. A. Long, the great lumber dealer, then a resident of Columbus and chairman of the committee on parade refused to take "no" for an answer, and on Saturday morning, the day of the rally, a second committee came from Columbus to Webb City bringing a personal and urgent letter from Colonel Long, the letter among other things stating that there would be a special train at the Memphis depot at 7 o'clock to carry the Webb City Flambeau Club to Columbus and that the parade would be held pending their arrival. At this third appeal Captain Heulett called his officers and a few of the members to his store for consultation and it was agreed that if sixty men would promise to go that they would take part in the parade. Six men with bicycles started out to see the members; they went to the stores, shops and mines, and at noon reported that seventy-five men had agreed to go. Mine operators were seen and asked to pay off the men as early as possible; the good wives were commissioned to do the week's trading; as early as half-past six the club had started toward the depot and at 7 o'clock, when the train pulled out 125 members were on board.

The division superintendent gave them a clear track to Columbus and the special seemed to hit only the high places and steamed into Columbus at twenty minutes after eight. The train was hardly at a standstill when the clear notes of Colonel Spracklin's bugle sounded "fall in," and in less than five minutes the pride of Jasper county's Democracy was at the head of the column and leading the southeast Kansas Democratic cohorts, ten thousand strong, through the streets and among the public squares of Cherokee county's seat of justice. After the parade the Webb City Flambeau Club were served a sumptuous repast by Colonel Long, who was the marshal of the day.



This club has contained on its roster quite a number of prominent men to whom political honors have come, among them: Congressman James A. Daugherty; Ex-Attorney General E. C. Crow, Ex-Sheriff Ab. Rich, and Ex-Mayor E. E. Spracklin.

#### COUNTY SCHOOLS IN THE 'EIGHTIES

S. A. Underwood, who had served the county as school commissioner since 1877, retired from the superintendent's office at the spring election of 1883, declining to be a candidate for reelection, and was succeeded by J. H. Frank, one of the strong rural teachers who resided in Carthage.

Mr. Frank continued the policies mapped out by Mr. Underwood and kept up the high standard of the county schools. Mr. Frank was a famous walker and thoroughly enjoyed the exhilarating exercise of a country stroll and during his term of office, as a matter of choice, made nearly all of his visitations on foot.

#### PHILIP ARNOLD, 1885-6

At the spring election of 1885 Philip Arnold of Joplin was elected county school commissioner. Mr. Arnold paid especial attention to spelling and penmanship and a marked improvement in these two branches was noted. At the close of his first year as superintendent Mr. Arnold made a strong address before the County Teachers Association on the subject of uniformity in text books and compulsory education, setting forth at length the almost insurmountable obstacles of classifying the rural schools—with the great variety of text books in use.

#### J. M. STEVENSON, 1887-93

Mr. Arnold was succeeded in 1887 by J. M. Stevenson of Carthage, and his administration was marked by the introduction of the County Normal.

#### THE JASPER COUNTY TEACHER'S NORMAL

Perhaps the most important happening in the public school history of the county during the 'eighties was the organization of the Normal, a summer school for teachers of the county, instituted by J. M. Stevenson, county superintendent, in 1887-93. During the ten years this county Normal was conducted it was a great benefit to the teachers, for it brought to their door a summer school with advantages equal to any of the state normals; for the same course of study pursued at the state institutions was in use and the instructors were from the best which the county and state could furnish.

The first session of the County Normal was begun July 29, 1887, at the high school building in Carthage, and was attended by 220 teachers and students. Among the instructors were Superintendent Stevenson, Superintendent Hawkins of Nevada, E. E. Dodd of Carthage, Superintendent Bray of Clarence, Mo., V. L. Vawter of Medoc, and J. E.

Locke of Smithfield. The Normal lasted four weeks, and at the close of the term the examinations showed a marked improvement.

One of the features of the Normal was its Literary Society. At the first Normal Literary in 1887 J. E. Locke, then principal of the Smithfield school, was chosen its president, and set the pace for a high standard. At the 1888 meeting Miss Izora Scott, teacher of elocution at Fort Scott, who was one of the instructors, was the president of the society, and in 1889 W. M. Wharton, afterward county superintendent, guided the destinies of the literary. The Normal News, a weekly paper read before the Society, was one of the most enjoyable features of the program. Its editorials on school management and its local witicisms were much enjoyed.

## CHAPTER XXII

### CITY OF CARTHAGE

OFFICERS AND CITY POLITICS—TEMPERANCE AND LOCAL OPTION—THE HARRINGTON HOTEL—CARTHAGE WOOLEN MILL—WHITE MARBLE AND LIME—VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT—SCHOOLS—THE ALLEN ORATORICAL CONTEST—CARTHAGE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE—M. E. CHURCH—MAJOR COLE'S REVIVAL—CARTHAGE LIGHT GUARD—CHRISTMAS POSTOFFICE SURPRISES—FIREMEN'S TOURNAMENT, JUNE 12-14, 1888—ENTERTAINS THE GRAND LODGE, K. OF P.—JASPER COMMANDERY NO. 31, K. T.—THE SKATING RINK—CARTHAGE CITY HALL.

Carthage during the 'eighties made the greatest gain, in point of numbers, of any of the cities of the county, growing from 5,316 in 1880, to 9,323 in 1890. This decade was a great period of activity in a business way and each of the ten years saw many building improvements. Many of the old landmarks were torn down, and new and modern residences and business blocks erected. In short, so many improvements were made, and the business activities were so great that in the limited scope of this chapter mention of all could not be made. We will, however, give a few of the important transactions and happenings of a general nature, to the end that the reader may form a correct estimate of the people and their business pursuits during this ten years of its important history.

#### OFFICERS AND CITY POLITICS

Below is a list of officers who served the city of Carthage during the 'eighties: Mayors—A. H. Caffee (two terms), E. W. Harper, T. T. Luskomb, J. L. Moore, Eugene O'Keif, J. W. Sennett (two terms), B. F. Thomas, and W. B. Myers.

City Council—1880: A. G. Milless, Charles J. Pool, I. F. Garner and Henry Haut.

1881: C. F. Hedreick, George W. Stebbins, A. W. Rogers and T. B. Tuttle.

1882: John Dermott, R. C. Friend, W. E. Hall and John H. Taylor.

1883: J. W. Miller, D. A. Smith, H. M. Gray, and John D. McCullis.

1884: I. W. Wheeler, H. C. Cogill, Frank Harrison and B. Heald.

1885: T. Wood, J. M. Nanson, George W. Payne and Reubin Koessber.

1886: H. C. Warner, William B. Myers, M. J. Jenkins and William H. Black.

1887: I. C. Hodson, W. L. Norris, W. B. Myers, and L. E. Steinmetz.

1888: G. B. Wood, Martin Leidy, Jasper Smith and S. O. Morrow.

1889: C. O. Harrington, F. B. Houston, J. W. Henderson and H. F. Beebe.

Marshals—James Flannigan (two terms), James Dragoon (two terms), James Deagan (two terms), D. M. Stafford (two terms), and J. C. Aehuff.

Recorders (Police Judges)—Daniel Brown, C. B. Stickney, S. G. William (two terms), B. F. Hackney, J. J. Higgins, Thomas Buckbee (two terms), B. F. Faught.

City Attorneys—M. G. McGregor, R. F. Butler, J. W. Hallburton, John H. Flannigan, E. C. De Vore, J. K. Shields, William La Force, J. D. Perkins, and Howard Gray.

Treasurers—J. J. Wells, L. F. Brown, James Spence (three terms), Edward Cassel, Lyman F. Brown (two terms), and E. B. Jacobs.

City Collectors—Fred Crocker (three terms), Thomas M. Garland, Jesse Rhodes (two terms), Fred Crocker (two terms), and Thomas M. Garland.

In 1882 Carthage, by an almost unanimous vote, granted a franchise for the building of a city water works plant, and thus took a great step forward.

#### TEMPERANCE AND LOCAL OPTION

In 1884, when the Blue Ribbon movement was at its height, the temperance people put out a city ticket and won by a handsome majority. In 1887, after the passage of the local option law by the state legislature, Carthage voted on the question of shutting out the saloons and the Prohibitionists won by a majority of 354, thus, for a second time in the decade, showing that the temperance sentiment at the county seat was in the majority.

#### THE HARRINGTON HOTEL

In 1882 C. O. Harrington, owner of the Aetna House (formerly the Carthage House and, by the way, the first hotel built in Carthage after the war at the northeast corner of the square) tore the building down and erected on the site of the old hostelry a magnificent up-to-date four-story brick hotel, modern and well appointed in every way. The building, still the leading hotel of the county seat, was opened in September, 1882, with a reception and banquet which pleasantly lingers in the minds of the guests who still survive. During the now almost thirty years of its catering to the traveling public the Harrington has made good, C. O. Harrington, its proprietor, having always had the active management of the house.

#### CARTHAGE WOOLEN MILL

On January 28, 1882, the Carthage Woolen Mill was burned; loss \$50,000, insurance \$35,000. The Company was at once reorganized and



a larger factory built than the first one, both being operated during the 'eighties. The importance of this industry cannot be overestimated, for its products were noted all over this and adjoining states and found their way to the wholesale houses of both Kansas City and St. Louis. This same year W. B. Myers, one of the original owners of the Carthage Woolen Mill, built the Missouri Woolen Mill and operated it with a high degree of success.

#### CARTHAGE WHITE MARBLE AND LIME

The Carthage White Marble, now so much used and far-famed, came into prominent notice in 1880. C. W. Fisher, a stone cutter in facing a piece of stone for a base to a monument noted that the white lime from the Carthage Stone Quarry was of an exceptionally high grade and, as an experiment, polished with great success a stone block and placed it on exhibition. From this small beginning the stone industry grew. W. B. Myers, late of the Carthage Woolen Mill, became interested in the stone industry and in 1885 shipped the first car of Carthage marble beyond the confines of the county.

#### VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

When the Carthage Water Works were completed in 1882 the fire department was reorganized and three volunteer companies enlisted and equipped with hose carts and modern fire-fighting apparatus. Charles O. Harrington was the first chief of the reorganized department and inaugurated a system of drills and discipline which brought it up to a high standard of proficiency. The press of business, however, caused Mr. Harrington to resign after a year's service and J. B. Buchanan was elected chief and made a good officer. At the annual meeting of the department in 1887 Mr. Buchanan retired from the department on account of a press of business, which had prevented his punctual attendance of meetings as in the past, and George H. Thomas was chosen as chief. James Deagan was also elected assistant chief. The promotion of Messrs. Thomas and Deagan caused a murmur all along the line and the companies elected the following officers:

President—Jas. M. Nanson.

Vice-president—H. V. Philips.

Secretary—Ben Strauss.

Treasurer—James Deagan.

Chief—Geo. H. Thomas.

Assistant Chief—Jas. Deagan.

Foreman Hose Co. No. 1—H. H. Burge; assistant, C. W. Stephenson.

Foreman Hose Company No. 2—H. V. Philips; assistant, Chas. Daily.

Foreman Hook and Ladder Company—J. B. Buchanan; assistant, Charles Tobias.

Trustees—Moses Block, H. V. Phillips and M. H. Clark.

During Mr. Harrington's administration as chief of the department a fatal accident occurred which brought sorrow to the members of the fire-fighting brigade.

On the evening of July 3, 1884, when Hose Company No. 1 was making a practice run, David Holt stumbled and fell and was struck on the right temple by the cart. His skull was cut and the scalp badly lacerated. Dr. Brooks was immediately called, but found that the unfortunate fireman was beyond human aid, and he died in a few hours. The funeral was largely attended and was under the auspices of the fire department and Knights of Pythias.

### SCHOOLS

During the 'eighties Carthage doubled in size and her school system kept pace with the times and likewise expanded. \$25,000 was spent in school improvements in 1886. Two very able educators guided the destinies of the public school system during this decade, Prof. Dan Mathews, during the first half, and Prof. J. M. White during the last half of the period. Prof. E. E. Dodd, late of Cornell University, came as principal of the high school in 1886 and made for the citizens a strong head of the institution. To illustrate his popularity, we recall the following little incident. At the commencement exercises of 1887, over the stage was the following class motto: "In Dodd we trust."

In our school story of the last decade will be found a list of the graduates from 1878 to date.

### THE ALLEN ORATORICAL CONTEST

In 1882 Col. C. C. Allen of Carthage offered a handsome gold medal to be contested for by the young men of southwest Missouri.

The first contest was, from a literary standpoint, a complete success, as it brought to Carthage a number of young men who were the best debaters of their respective towns.

A. L. Sherman, a law student in the office of L. P. Cunningham at Joplin, won the medal at the first contest. In 1884 the medal was again contested, but in 1885, on account of the lack of interest, the offer was withdrawn.

### THE CARTHAGE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

During September, 1883, just at the time when the young people of the county were going away to attend the State University, the Normal schools, and other higher institutions of learning, Rev. Dr. Knight of the First Presbyterian church of Carthage, called the attention of his congregation to some fifty or more young ladies and gentlemen of Carthage and immediate vicinity who had gone that month to one of the several educational institutions of the state and suggested that it would have been a great saving of money to the community if these students, who annually go abroad for an education, could be schooled at home.

After an earnest plea for a higher education he closed his remarks with the suggestion that a college be built by the Presbyterians of the county and located at Carthage.

A meeting was called for December 17, 1883, and was largely attended by the Presbyterians of Carthage. Rev. Dr. J. S. Reeser, of St. Louis, an educator of ability, was invited to attend the meeting and in a convincing talk pointed out the need of a college for the Empire county. A committee of ways and means was appointed and a considerable sum was pledged during the spring and summer of 1884. Rev. Dr. H. D. Ganse, of Chicago, secretary of the Presbyterian Board of College Aid, now visited Carthage and guaranteed \$1,000 annually toward the support of the school. On December 23rd, the formal organization of the school was perfected and the name Carthage Collegiate Institute chosen.

The following gentlemen were chosen for the first board of trustees: W. S. Knight, H. C. Cowgill, M. G. McGregor, F. C. McElroy, J. L. Moore, I. C. Campbell, A. H. Caffee, W. W. Calhoon, W. H. Crothers, J. W. Burch, R. L. Galbreath, J. G. Irvin, W. A. Wheatley, A. L. Thomas, D. Matthews, Thomas E. Gray, Wm. McMillen and E. W. Baines.

The charter for the school was issued on February 2, 1885, and on May 18th a beautiful site was selected on South Main street and work began in real earnest to finance the project.

The grounds were purchased at a cost of \$3,100 and the contract price for the college was, in round numbers, \$14,000. While the building was being erected the annex of the First Presbyterian church of Carthage was used temporarily for a school and there the Collegiate Institute opened its doors.

In November, 1886, Rev. Dr. J. G. Reeser of Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri, accepted the presidency of the new college. On June 6, 1887, the corner-stone was formally laid, and we reprint here the report of the ceremonies published in the *Carthage Banner*.

#### THE CORNER STONE

OF THE CARTHAGE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE LAID THIS AFTERNOON—WITH ALL THE POMP AND PAGEANTRY KNOWN TO MODERN TIMES.

No event has ever before transpired in the city of Carthage, of a like character, that has attracted so large a crowd of people from all parts of the southwest as has the laying of the corner stone of the Carthage Collegiate Institute, which took place this afternoon; nor has this ceremony, which marks the literal foundation of a grand educational institution of the future for all this section of the Great West, ever been accorded in so royal a manner to any other like institution in the state of Missouri. Such an outpouring of people as has been seen on our streets today was not called together for the purpose of pleasure-seeking or in commemoration of any national jubilee. To-day men turned their backs upon the harvest fields ripe with golden grain, merchants closed their stores in the faces of clamoring customers, the miner left his drill and the lawyer his desk—all stopped suddenly in the greedy rush for the sordid gains of this world, to do honor to that greatest and grandest of American institutions—education. What more positive sign of an intelligent, prosperous and advanced

people could be shown in any section of the inhabited globe, than has been witnessed here to-day? Thousands of people, who, aside from this common interest in education, have no interest in particular with Carthage, came from the surrounding counties and towns. They came as individuals and societies—all classes and all orders—to show their devotion to this great cause. Carthage is proud of this recognition of her enterprise and is also proud of the country in which she is built; proud of the position her schools, private and public, hold in the state; proud that this great school has been founded in her midst; proud of the distinction awarded her to-day; proud of the grand old fraternity and brotherhood that officiated in this ceremony; proud of all the benevolent and civic orders that honor her this day. This occasion will link bonds of friendship between our people and our neighbors that time will never sever.

The early morning trains were well filled with visitors and long before noon the streets were crowded. Joplin, Webb City, Cartersville, Oronogo, Cherryvale, Oswego, Columbus and delegations from other towns arrived at nine o'clock on the Frisco. In uniform were the Knights Templar, Grand Army, A. O. U. W., Knights of the Golden Eagle, Select Knights and others. At 9:30 the train came loaded with the same orders from Sarcoxie, Peirce City, Springfield and other eastern points. The Missouri Pacific brought in the visitors from Lamar, Nevada and Clinton.

The Light Guard Band and a delegation of Knights Templar met the incoming trains on the Frisco and escorted the visiting orders to their various headquarters. At 1:30 the procession formed on Fourth street and marched around the square and south on Main street to the college grounds in the following order, under command of S. E. Wetzel, marshal of the day:

Carthage Band.  
Board of trustees in carriages.  
Officers and speakers in carriages.  
Mayor and city council in carriages.  
County officials in carriages.  
Members of the press in carriages.  
Fire Department.  
Knights of the Golden Eagle.  
Members Grand Army Republic.  
Select Knights A. O. U. W.  
Ancient Order United Workmen.  
Light Guard Band.  
Knights Templar.  
Members of A. F. & A. Masons.  
Officers of Grand Lodge Masons.  
Citizens in carriages.

At the grounds Rev. W. S. Knight acted as president of the day, and the following is the order of the ceremonies:

Music—Carthage Band.  
Address of Welcome—Mayor J. W. Sennet.  
Deposit of relics.  
Ceremony. Placing of corner stone by Masonic Fraternity.  
Music—Light Guard Band.  
Address—P. G. M., J. D. Vincil.  
Music—Carthage Band.  
Historical Address—Rev. W. S. Knight.  
Music—Light Guard Band.  
Address—Rev. A. G. Hibbard.  
Closing Prayer—Rev. J. T. Chambers.  
The box deposited in the corner stone contained the following:  
A Bible.



Articles of association of the Institute.

Minutes of the first meeting of the Board.

A copy of each of the following newspapers: Church at Home and Abroad, Presbyterian Banner, St. Louis Evangelist, Interior, Carthage Daily and Weekly BANNER, Press, Patriot, Democrat, and Feathered Home; list of subscribers to the building fund; report of Carthage public schools for 1885-86; copy of the immigration pamphlet; a piece of continental money dated December 7, 1775, and another dated April 10, 1777; drafts for one dollar from each of the city banks; coins and fractional currency; catalogue of the Carthage Business College.

The corner stone ceremonies were in charge of the Masonic fraternity of this city and were carried out according to the ritual of the order. The management of the occasion have been successful in carrying out the day's program in good style and are to be congratulated on the great success of the entire affair.

The following are the addresses delivered this afternoon, except that of Past Grand Master Vincil, which it was impossible to obtain in time for this issue:

#### WELCOME ADDRESS—MAYOR SENNET.

FELLOW CITIZENS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

We are present to-day on no ordinary occasion and you have placed before me no ordinary task.

In the name of the people of Carthage, and on behalf of her citizens, I most cheerfully welcome you to the work and labor of laying the foundations of an Institution in our midst, which we hope and believe will be, not only the pride and ornament of our city, but which will in time, send forth its representatives from our midst to advance the civilization of the world.

We hope and trust that here, no dread edict "*Carthago delenda est*," will ever go forth to blight this fair spot and to send the ploughshare of ruin to obliterate and wipe out the place we now dedicate and set apart to become the pride and glory of our name and enterprise.

It is difficult to over estimate the importance of the work you are now beginning.

While we admire self made men, and hold them up with pride as examples before our country of what personal energy and character may accomplish, yet as our great leaders, both in church and state, and in every department of literary and scientific enterprise lay aside their worldly honors and cares, and close their lives full of worldly greatness you will almost invariably see, in that short summary which foots up so concisely the record of a well spent life, "He graduated at Yale College, or Harvard, or Andover, or Dartmouth, or Columbia, or Athens, or Kenyon, and so on down through the bright and shining list of our Public Institutions, which so adorn this enlightened age, established and built up in every state in this free country.

And all along the pathway of that great man's career, where ever he cast his lot and influence in life, the classic shades of his cherished "*Alma Mater*" were never forgotten.

In long years to come, in the stormy conflicts of life; on every battle field of human progress and reform, this Institution will send her champions to the conflict and when the battle of life is fought and won and the summary is made up, the proud record before the world will be, as to many you shall send forth, "He graduated at Carthage." Guard well then, and cherish tenderly fellow citizens, the interests this day committed to your charge. May they be in your midst; what they are worthy to become; more cherished than the Sacred Penates of Ancient Mythology, more honored than the Star and Garter, or the Roman Eagles of ancient pride and glory, more durable than the monuments of ancient Power and Grandeur.

For this, we invoke with humble benediction, that Overruling Power, which directs the destinies of man, of nations, and of the world.

REV. HIBBARD'S REMARKS.

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW CITIZENS: While I fully appreciate the kindly consideration which has asked me to address you to-day, I also understand that it will not be becoming that I trespass long on your time nor exhaust the patience which has already been drawn upon by services and words that must pertain to such an occasion.

It has occurred to me that some of you may be asking, Why this outlay of money, of care, of anxious interest, to provide such an institution in a state that makes complete provision for the education of her sons and daughters, and especially in a community remarkable for the excellence of its schools, and where fitting preparation may be had for higher grades of culture? I have not the time, nor is this the place to give careful answer to this honest query. But I would suggest that the very system upon which our public education is based is the reason why this institution is demanded. Instruction provided by the commonwealth must be adapted in its methods and in its rate of progress to the average ability of those whom it seeks to educate. The problem which our public school educators have sought to solve is something like this: Given, the average child, having the average constitution, the average natural ability to study and learn, the average opportunities, how may I do the most for, and make the most of that child with the money and time at my command?"

The problem is a great one, and it requires a process of induction extending through generations in order to answer it wisely and well. Meanwhile, our systems are largely experimental, and it is their glory that they are going on from good to better, and, as we hope, to best.

But, pertaining necessarily to such a system, there must be an inflexibility which is a constant repression upon the scholar of ability above the average, and of wearying and perhaps exhausting strain upon those below it. The boy or girl coming from a home which is itself a school and which represents generations of culture cannot do their best when held back to accommodate the slow progress of those who represent homes and families of precisely the opposite character. The active intellect will find vent somewhere, and the necessities of the system may explain that not infrequent expression of our teachers, "our brightest scholars make us the most trouble."

Hence the academy, and never was it more needed than to-day. Its power to adapt itself to all grades of ability; its longer period in the class room; the tenure by which it holds its pupils; the *esprit de corps* which it ordinarily arouses, the closer contact between teacher and pupil—each and all of these things call it into being, and so far from making it a rival of the public school, in any rivalry which can be injurious, it gives the latter the relief that is needed in order that its greatest efficiency may be secured and its highest usefulness promoted. It takes each class of ability and attainment and grades it where it may do its best work, with as little repression or strain as possible. The experience of centuries has demonstrated its usefulness, and, unlike our public schools, which are the outgrowth of present necessities, has proven the wisdom and utility of its methods. Our older states point with conscious pride to their academies, and it is a glory to this new west that she is emulating the acquisitions of the older east, and will soon stand abreast of her in all that pertains to the best and highest intellectual culture.

But we cannot pause here in our statement of reasons for the foundation of such an institution as this. The inception of this enterprise was in the minds of those who believe that in Jesus Christ and his religion is the most enduring foundation and the most powerful motive and active stimulant for intellectual growth and mental culture. The active promoters of this work are men and

women who believe not only in the doctrine of *mens sana in corpore sano*, but also in that grander, more far-reaching truth, *omnia ad Dei gloriam*. They recollect that the glory of our land to-day and the hope of its future is largely in those institutions where both precepts of the Divine maxim are taught which enjoins that we "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's." It will be fostered by the gifts and embraced in the prayers of fathers and mothers who live as seeing those things which are invisible, and who would have the culture of their children reach upward beyond the intellect and beyond the purest morality, to the highest part of our human nature—the spiritual—which not only allies us with God but the culture of which shall prepare for Divine companionship when these objects about us shall have passed away. So they come here to-day with glad and trusting hearts, interested in this institution because it is likely to become the crowning glory of our beautiful Queen City; interested in it because it is likely to exert a power which shall attract hither men of means who shall help forward all our enterprises; men who love learning and purity, whose presence shall exalt the moral tone about us and clarify the moral atmosphere we breathe; interested in it, because here their sons shall be made strong to sustain and active to carry forward all that is good, and "their daughters may be as corner-stones, polished after the similitude of a palace."

The church whose fostering care adopts it has shown by the history of hundreds of institutions like that which this is to become, that she knows how to be christian and not sectarian in their management; that she knows how to exercise the largest toleration; that she would not only "live, but let live;" that she appreciates and can command, and is satisfied with nothing but the highest culture; that the work to-day commenced is a work to be carried on always; that every institution that is her pride had a commencement of less promise, perhaps, than this of ours. And so her honored representatives stand here to-day equipped with testimonials giving them the best of authority to call upon all good citizens for their continued interest and benefactions, and upon all true christians for their gifts and their prayers.

As I look forward into the future years I see this beautiful campus covered with buildings devoted to high culture, filled with eager students and wise professors; I see our citizens bringing strangers here and pointing with pride to the then present, and with greater pride to the sacrifices through which the great things have been accomplished; I see pleasant homes all through this section of our state; I see better schools in every village—a high tone of intellectual life on farm, in workshop, store and office. I see our Sabbaths honored; I see a higher type of citizen, and all this because upon every building erected and upon the heart of every student educated there has been written the words so glowing with light and so full of holy uplifting power, *pro Christo et humanitate*.

#### FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The First Methodist church, during the 'eighties, as in the pioneer days, continued to be a great power in Carthage, and closed the decade with the building of a magnificent house of worship, costing \$24,000. Dr. Stewart, who was assigned to the Carthage charge in 1881 continued until 1885, when the Rev. Dr. George H. Hughey of St. Louis was sent to the First church and remained until 1888. Dr. Hughey was a splendid Christian gentleman, kind and pleasant in manner and eloquent in speech. During Dr. Hughey's pastorate the membership of the church was greatly increased. During 1881-2 additions were made to the church as a result of his earnest work.



Rev. Dr. A. R. Cronce was assigned to the church in 1888 and during his pastorate the handsome church edifice was built.

A farewell meeting was held in the old church building March 7, 1889, and was attended by seventeen members who were present at the dedication twenty years before: R. H. Rose and wife, Mrs. J. J. Hall, D. A. Harrison, Mrs. Sandige, Mrs. Ragsdale, John Easton, Bennett Hall, R. G. Seawell, Amelia Haughwout, Mrs. Hanna Potter, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fosdick, A. B. Parkell, Mrs. J. N. Stephenson and Nelson Damon and wife.

The dedication of the new church took place Sunday, May 5th. The Right Reverend Bishop Bowman, of St. Louis, bishop of this diocese for seventeen years, came out from St. Louis to dedicate the church and occupied the seat of honor in the pulpit. At his right sat Rev. Dr. Miller, of Kansas City, one of the most prominent and eloquent divines in the west and whose reputation as an orator, as well as a Christian worker is such that his church is always filled to overflowing. On the left of the Bishop sat Rev. Dr. Tuttle, of Sedalia, a venerable gentleman who two years ago celebrated his half century in the Methodist ministry and has since been superannuated. Presiding Elder Hamel and Rev. A. R. Cronce, pastor of the church, also occupied chairs in the pulpit. The benign countenance of Rev. Dr. Hughey beamed upon his congregation from the platform and an expression of pardonable pride was visible on his face as he viewed the grand building which his efforts and influence had done so much toward securing for Carthage. To the Doctor's indomitable energy, more than any other one thing, are the Methodists of this city indebted for their magnificent building.

There were present to assist in the services, Rev. J. J. Martin, of Marionville, Rev. C. V. Criss, of Lamar, and Rev. H. M. Hackney, of Joplin.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Rev. D. Miller of Kansas City and his address was pronounced by many to have been the ablest sermon ever delivered in Carthage.

The vast congregation sat as if spell-bound for over an hour and were so *en rapport* with the speaker that when at his final outburst of glorified eloquence, a genuine Methodist shout was heard from a happy, sympathetic old man, the majority of the congregation felt as though they would like to join him in his hallelujah.

#### THE INFLUENCE OF JESUS

Dr. Miller said in part on this topic, to which his sermon was devoted:

"His name shall be called wonderful,"—Isa. 9:6

More than eighteen hundred years ago there was born in Bethlehem, of Judea, a being who has shaped the progress of the centuries until now—a being sustaining the most marvelous relations to all things. Let any one read the biographical sketches as given by the evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, and then let him say whether Jesus of Nazareth is not the most wonderful person of history. But the wonder lies deeper. It is not merely the historical



Christ that engages the world's attention. It is the perpetually present Christ; the Christ who went away from the outside only to come back on the inside.

After discussing with great vividness and power the energy, extent and variety of Christ's influence in the world, Dr. Miller said:

Christ's influence is as permanent as it is varied. If we test the continued potency of the influence which has come down to us from Bethlehem and Calvary by the extent to which they have become incorporated in the thought and life of our times, we shall be compelled, whether disciples or critics, to recognize in the teachings and example, and above all the death of Jesus of Nazareth the reservoir of moral and intellectual force from which mankind have been continually drawing their highest forms of energy, and on which the whole world is becoming more and more consciously dependent for its renewal and reformation. I know that social and national ethics are still as far from the gospel ideal as is the practical morality of every day life. But I know, too, that both social and national standards tend to approximate that ideal, and that men, whether in public or private life, are commended or censured just in proportion as they conform to it or depart from it. The critics and enemies have been at work like sappers and miners to subvert the truth on which the church is founded; but they have only disclosed the Gibraltar like strength of her foundations. I would as soon fear the digging down of the Rocky mountains, with their hundreds of miles of granite base, with a penknife, as to fear for all the petty assaults of infidelity on the mount of God's revealed truth.

"Immovably founded in grace

She stands as she ever hath stood.

And brightly her builder displays

And flames with the glory of God,"

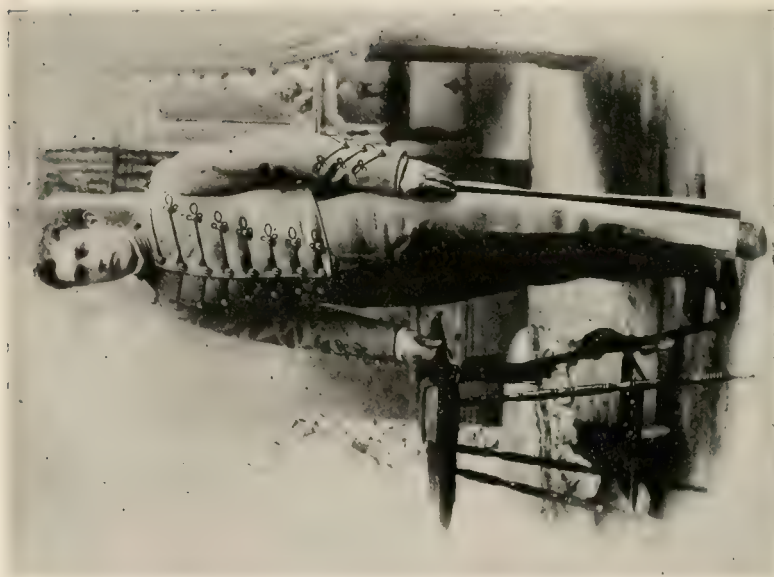
while the more portentous but foundationless structure which her enemies have tried to rear in her stead have been swept, one after another, by the tempests of a common sense judgment out of existence. According to all rules and logic, the church, as a mere human institution should long since have disappeared from the earth, destroyed, if in no other way by the weakness and infidelities of her own children. But of all powers, whether of light or of darkness, she remains the perpetual and immortal mistress. Statesmen must heed her voice, philanthropists must invoke her aid and follow her as an infallible guide; moralists must recognize her ideals and standards, and reformers must draw the support of their cause from her ample and exhaustless bosom.

The influence of Jesus never grows old. It is as young as the sunshine, which is no older this morning than when it brightened on the hill-tops of Judea on the morning of the nativity. Look at the ship on yonder ocean; the toughest oak will rot and the staunchest ships will lay their decayed timbers on the strand. That is the fate of all human systems, but the religion of Christ is like the ocean itself, stretching away to the far shores of an eternity and bearing all ships, whether little or large, that venture on its sunny bosom, to the desired haven.

The dedicatory services were brief and to the point and in a fervid prayer the venerable Bishop dedicated the handsome structure to the Glory of God.

#### MAJOR COLE'S REVIVAL

In February, 1888, Major Cole, a noted revivalist of the 'eighties, began a series of meetings in Carthage, which stirred the county seat to great religious activity. His meetings were held in the skating rink and the first one for men was attended by 800. Before the close of the



UNIFORMED MEMBERS OF THE OLD "FIFTH"

revival the great audiences which nightly gathered at the rink taxed its capacity and overflow meetings were necessary to accommodate the throng who came to hear the gifted preacher. Many united with the several churches as a result of these meetings.

#### THE CARTHAGE LIGHT GUARD

It would hardly do justice to the splendid military organization which Carthage maintained during the 'eighties to pass it with a formal mention of its officers and the several military encampments which the company attended; for the Light Guard, during the 'eighties, was not only the pride of all Carthage on account of its military achievements, but it was the center of the social life of the county seat.

On the retirement of Captain Tuttle, in 1880, the following officers were elected: Captain, W. K. Caffee; first lieutenant, C. O. Harrington; second lieutenant, Charles Brown; first surgeon, A. M. Hurty.

The company now procured new uniforms and equipments and their fine appearance excited the admiration of every one. During July 3-5, 1881, the company went into camp at Cassil's Place, with two companies from St. Louis and the Fort Scott Company of the Kansas State Guard as their guests. On July 5th a sham battle was fought to commemorate the battle of Carthage on July 5, 1861.

Washington's birthday was the time set apart for the company's annual military ball and it was the society event of the year in Carthage. Preparations were made weeks in advance for these functions and the memories of those happy occasions are pleasant recollections to this day. We describe at length the Light Guard ball of 1884, as it will give an idea of the Company in a social way. We print here the *Banner's* account of the affair:

#### "ON WITH THE DANCE."

##### THE LIGHT GUARD BALL, A COMPLETE SOCIAL VICTORY FOR OUR SOLDIER BOYS.

Washington's birthday was never honored by a more brilliant and enjoyable occasion than the Light Guard ball at the Opera House last night. The gas jets of a military ball at the Nation's capital could scarcely have lighted up a more bewildering array of "fair women and brave men." The room was very handsomely decorated and in the best of taste. The columns and chandeliers were draped with bright colored decorations artistically blended. The walls were covered with evergreens, mottoes and flags. Every point of advantage was occupied by something bright and beautiful and the scene was brilliantly lighted by numerous gas jets under red, white and blue shades. There were upward of one hundred guests present, comprising large delegations from Joplin, Springfield, Lamar, Peirce City, Nevada, Neosho and Kansas City. The large number in attendance forbids even an attempt to name all, or to describe the many rich and beautiful costumes. It was made a full dress occasion and there were numerous magnificent toilets. Bright silks and satins, gauzy laces, gold, pearls and the sparkle of diamonds.

The gentlemen were in conventional black excepting that large proportion of the company whose manly forms were covered by the gray uniforms of the Carthage, and Springfield Light Guard, or the blue and gold of the Joplin Rifles,

Peirce City Guard and Lamar City Guards. The grand march began at nine o'clock and was participated in by at least one hundred couples. This was followed by the regular program of dances. At half past ten o'clock the Carthage Light Guard entered the hall, led by the L. G. Band and gave their

#### SILENT MANUAL DRILL.

They went through the manual of arms and all the evolutions without a word of command and with the utmost precision. The performance was repeatedly and enthusiastically cheered and even our own people who know so well the proficiency of the Guard were surprised and felt a new pride in our "crack military company," and many were the words of praise and commendation from the visitors from neighboring towns.

At 11 o'clock, supper at the Harrington was announced and for an hour or two the ball room divided the attractions of the evening with the banquet hall. Mr. Criley, of the Harrington, had prepared an elegant oyster supper, with all its unusual accessories, and presented the homely but popular bivalve in its most attractive forms. Mr. Criley is always equal to the occasion whether it be of a special nature or merely the provision of the every day comfort of hotel life. When the more sedate and elderly people had taken supper, they called it quits and went home, but those who attend a ball to dance had merely been taking their preliminary exercise, and as the departures left a good free space in the hall, the business of the evening began in good earnest, and as nearly as we can learn the musicians earned their money before their night's work was over. The music by the way is worthy of special comment.

The L. G. Band played excellently, and the music furnished by the Kansas City Orchestra was an entertainment in itself. This orchestra has the reputation of being one of the best in the state, and the reputation is deserved.

#### THE FLOOR MANAGERS.

Messrs. A. M. Hurty, A. B. Deutsch, Ben Allen, J. D. Perkins and C. O. Harrington were ubiquitous throughout the evening and untiring in their efforts to make the occasion enjoyable for everybody. Too much cannot be said of their skillful and energetic work, to which the splendid success of the ball is largely due.

Besides nearly all the society people of Carthage, too numerous to name, we noticed,

#### FROM ABROAD.

James Bolen and wife, Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Stockton and Lew Miller, of Kansas City.

Harry Moore and wife, E. Wilcox and Frank Morse, of Nevada.

John H. Taylor, Miss Marcie Webb, Miss Bertha Brader and Miss C. Goodwin, of Joplin. Also Lieut. F. E. Williams, Sergeant F. A. Franklin, Lee Carterter, E. C. Summerfield, Harry Laudback, Ben Landauer, L. G. Houard, W. W. Pate, Jr., and Arthur Leonard, of the Joplin Rifles.

Miss Hayes, Arthur J. Weir and Falcon L. Weir, of Neosho.

Mr. Chas. Neiswager and wife, Miss Addie Boyden, Mr. Dan Herman, of Springfield, besides Capt. Geo. Townsend, Lieut. J. Hastings, Lieut. R. C. McMullan, Gus Clements, S. McGregor, A. B. Diggins, W. S. Purcell, Chas. H. Hanan and Pratt Saylor, of Springfield Light Guard.

Capt. Bennett, Elmer Tomlinson and Charlie Stevenson of Lamar.

Mrs. J. Gillette, Mr. Ben LaFayette, and Lieut. J. Gillette, J. L. Johnson, Albert Newman, R. S. Crebs, W. A. Duncan, F. C. Stellhorn, Jas. B. Davis of the City Guard, Peirce City.

Miss Peachy Railey, of St. Louis, Miss Marsh, of Wisconsin; Miss Campbell, of Clarksville, Tenn.



## BALL NOTES.

They all say it—that the ball last night was the finest thing of the kind that ever occurred in Carthage.

There were costumes at the Opera House last night that would have graced the President's reception or Vanderbilt's ball.

Thomas Summerfield, the irrepressible of the *Joplin Herald*, enjoyed himself among the Carthaginians at the Opera House.

The Joplin Rifles in their blue uniform with gold lace trimmings presented a fine appearance and were much admired.

The Springfield Light Guard sent up a delegation whom the girls declare, first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of their country women.

A lady, who last year witnessed the prize drill in Chicago, was heard to remark last night that she saw nothing there to equal the silent drill of the Carthage Light Guard.

Col. C. C. Allen of the "Gallant Fifth" made his first public appearance in his new uniform last night. He looks every inch a soldier which gives him more soldierly inches than many a bigger man.

Mr. Arthur J. Weir and his brother, Falcon L. Weir, of Neosho, who were at the ball, are connected with the Scotch Land Company of Newton county, the former being assistant manager and acting superintendent of the company. He has been a commissioned officer in the British army, and says he has seen a good deal of fine drilling but that the performance of the Light Guard will compare favorably with any of it.

## THE LIGHT GUARD'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY

On January 5, 1886, the Light Guard celebrated the tenth anniversary of its organization with a banquet at the Harrington Hotel which was a brilliant success. The arrangements had been placed in the hands of a competent committee consisting of Lieutenant Ed. P. Cassil, Sergeants G. H. Thomas and A. B. Deutsch, Corporal R. G. Smith and Private A. H. Miller, and nothing had been omitted which was calculated to increase the enjoyment and success of the occasion. The tables in the spacious dining room of the Harrington Hotel were very handsomely arranged, and the supper, under the liberal and skilful direction of Mr. Fabyan, the courteous landlord, and his efficient lieutenant, Mr. Foss, left nothing undone to make it the crowning event of the Guard's ten years of success.

Among the guests were Governor John S. Marmaduke, Labor Commissioner O. Von Kochtisky, R. Roche, of the adjutant-generals' department. The field officers of the Fifth regiment, namely, Col. C. C. Allen, Maj. Clark Craycroft, Adjutant Harrington, Surgeon Crebbs and Quartermaster Hillyer; Ex-mayors Harding, Caffee, Harper, Luscombe and Moore, Mayor O'Keefe; ex-officers Capt. Tuttle and Lieut. Cahn; members of the press, A. W. St. John, A. F. Lewis, and S. D. Carpenter; vocal quartet consisting of Dr. L. I. Matthews, Geo. Blakeney, S. S. Wells and W. Mitchell, with Mr. Cort Hill as accompanist. Prof. Dumar and his orchestra were also in attendance and furnished some excellent music.

The most interesting feature of the evening was the after-dinner speeches. "Sketch of Our Ten Years' History" was responded to by Capt. W. K. Caffee, in the following able and interesting speech, which is given in full.

Our company is, I believe, the out-growth of a convention held between Mr. Deagan and myself upon a Sunday in December, of the year 1875. The interest we excited communicated itself to others and upon the 3d of January, 1876, in the then Regan's Hall, was held the meeting whose tenth anniversary we are commemorating so pleasantly tonight.

The Carthage Light Guard, though a ten years' existence is but a comparatively brief one, is venerable in the roll of similar organizations in our state, for change has so wrought among them that we now rank as the oldest.

Our earlier years were uneventful beyond the incidents, which we still partially experience, of a struggle for existence. Our first and most ambitious trip was to the Grant reception at Kansas City in 1880; it is now most memorable to many of us as our last sight of the grand commander, whose honest simplicity of character, inflexible purpose and military genius, carried him up to and through the honorable and glorious career which is so bright a page in the country's history. To that trip we are indebted for the impetus which has carried us through the succeeding years, for comparing our uniforms, worn, seedy and shabby, with the bright and handsome outfits of so many other commands we were spurred to the exertion which made us equal in appearance at least, to any other.

We have visited Fort Scott twice; Cherryvale, where we found it possible to provide too liberally against suffering from the peculiar draught supposed to exist within the borders of our sister state, and in consequence the unwise amount of preventive absorbed caused the introduction of many startling and unknown manoeuvres in our exhibition drill to the astonishment of a few posted, but to the wild delight of the greater number of uninitiated spectators; twice Nevada, whose whole-souled hospitality and cordial welcome yet warms our hearts and claims from us a fitting requital in the future; Springfield twice; Joplin, whose kind citizens have entertained us more than once; twice Peirce city, whose people proved to our regiment, as well as ourselves, their right to be numbered among the most genial and capable of hosts, and last Pittsburg.

Our camp in Cassil's Place was one of the pleasantest events of our history; we there first had the happiness of the presence of this evening's most honored guest; the warm expression of appreciation from our St. Louis visitors, so often since extended to us individually, has amply repaid us; that they were sincere in their declarations the beautiful medal presented to us through Capt. Bull and Sergeant Gareschie amply testifies. There crosses my mind a faint recollection of an entertainment offered these gentlemen on the banks of Spring river, but the details are obscured beyond the memory that the affair was wildly-joyful.

To the ladies we owe as an organization, what all men do as individuals, much of that inspiration, which leads to success. Our flag is their gift, and the graceful act was worthy of their tender hearts. Their bright smiles and approbation are prizes we have ever striven for, and from our rapidly increasing number of Benedicts, I think not altogether in vain.

Of the gentlemen who have officered the company, our first Captain, Garrison, lives far away. My predecessor, Capt. Tuttle, ex-Lieutenants Calm, Brown, and Deagan, the latter now through modesty most faithful of privates, we have with us to-night. Hardin, the faithful and efficient officer, the courteous and polished gentleman, is no more.

We have borne upon our roles the names of two hundred men. Of these forty-eight are now active members; fifty are still our townsmen, but no more of us; five have joined that greatest army, and "Bivouac with the dead;" the remainder are scattered, many, I know not where.

Through all our existence we have enjoyed the well wishes of our people. At first many smiles greeted our awkwardness, but increased proficiency brought its corresponding respect, and I believe few of our citizens but think we have measurably succeeded in our endeavor to build up an organization, which, by its efficiency in drill and the conduct of its members, redounds to the credit and honor of Carthage, we all love so well.

My sketch would hardly be complete without allusion to the phenomenally small amount of friction which has existed among us. Other companies in the state have had much larger membership, more money, more elaborate equipments and better armories, but have lacked that something, I know not what, to preserve their existence. Dissensions have arisen, factions formed, disgust followed and then, the end. Even in our own regiment, organized but two years ago, there is but one company, besides our own, in which as great changes have not occurred in that time as in our ten years' life. We have had our little domestic quarrels and strife, but have gotten bravely thro' or over them. We have never had factions; we could not even stay mad at our state long enough, when the last legislature failed to "appropriate," to stick out our intention of disbanding; but are here tonight celebrating the completion of one decade of our company's being, and looking forward to unnumbered ones to follow.

Governor Marmaduke answered to the toast, "The State of Missouri," in a very interesting manner. He complimented the Light Guard, and expressed the hearty wish that the state of Missouri might come to appreciate its gallant militia, by making a proper appropriation for its support.

"The Fifth Regiment" was the topic to which Colonel Allen responded with all his characteristic ability, and his remarks were among the best and most entertaining of the evening.

"The Rank and File" was the sentiment which Private Ed. Crow was allotted. He made an eloquent and able speech, and concluded with the presentation, in behalf of the company, of a magnificent sword to Captain Caffee, accompanied with the roster of the company handsomely written out and framed.

Ex-Lieutenant Al Cahn made a most humorous response to the toast "The Ex-Officers on half pay and short rations."

Major Craycroft of Joplin did the honors for the Joplin Rifles and referred eloquently to "our better five-eighths, the ladies."

#### THE LIGHT GUARD DISBANDED

At the session of the state legislature in 1887 that body made no appropriation for the National Guard and the companies all over the state disbanded, among them the Light Guard. The *Carthage Banner*, speaking editorially of the matter, said: "Company A, Fifth Regiment N. G. M., is no more. This means that the Carthage Light Guard, the flower of the regiment, the pride of our people and the oldest company in the state, has, like many other companies throughout the state, laid down its arms to the legislative cowards who fear the threats of a secret organization that defies the law whenever opportunity offers, and to the demands of the mossback element from the back counties. It is a most humiliating surrender after nearly eleven years of faithful service. While our people feel most keenly the loss of the Light Guard and are chagrined beyond measure that this step has been forced upon the company, they all unite in approving of the action taken Wednesday night.

"The meeting was largely attended and the motion to disband was carried unanimously. A resolution of thanks was tendered to the gov-



ernor, the adjutant-general, the chairman of the senate and the house committees on militia for the efforts they made for the success of the bill; also to the citizens of Carthage for their support and encouragement in the past. The arms will be returned to the state, and the uniforms and other property carefully stored and kept in good condition for the future, in case another company should ever be organized under more favorable legislation. It was decided that after the debts of the company are paid, the surplus remaining in the treasury shall be donated to the Board of Trade. This amount will probably be between \$180 and \$200. The first prize medal held by the company was voted to Capt. Caffee, and the second medal to Capt. Harrington. The company flag was voted to Lieutenant Deutsch."

#### REORGANIZED

At the 1889 meeting of the general assembly a liberal appropriation was made for the state guard and Company A was reorganized, fully one half of the old members going into the reorganized company. The company will be spoken of again in our military article covering the 'nineties.

#### CHRISTMAS POSTOFFICE SURPRISES

In 1880 Maj. A. F. Lewis, editor of the *Carthage Banner*, was appointed postmaster of Carthage and under his able management many new and business like innovations were made. So thoroughly did he systematize the work and so quickly and satisfactorily was business transacted that before the end of the year the office had been raised from third to second class, which brought with it more and better mail service and postal accommodations. This was greatly appreciated by the citizens of Carthage and it was decided by the business and professional people of the county seat to present the postmaster with an appropriate testimonial of their appreciation. Christmas day was selected as the most appropriate time for the presentation.

Major Lewis was not aware that he was to be the recipient of a Christmas present and himself had planned a Christmas surprise. At about eleven o'clock Christmas day, 1880, the postmaster called all of his help to his desk and in a neat speech related the raising of the office from a third to a second class station, stating that he desired to give full credit to the office force for this important designation. He said that howsoever well he might plan, if there was not perfect accord and loyal support from the "men behind the guns" he could not succeed, and in testimony of his appreciation of their loyalty and faithfulness he presented each with a handsome Christmas souvenir. He had scarcely finished his remarks when one of his intimate political friends asked him to step over to the restaurant and get an oyster stew. Now oysters were Major Lewis's long suit and he accepted. On arriving at the oyster parlor he found there assembled some hundred or more of the business men



and leading citizens and before he had time to ask the meaning of the assemblage Attorney Al Thomas, a most ardent Democrat and political adversary, as spokesman for the people, told Mr. Lewis that regardless of their political affiliations they were loud in their praise of his management of the postoffice and desired to show him in some tangible way their feeling of commendation and on behalf of the business men of Carthage presented him with a gold watch appropriately engraved. The watch was a beautiful one, costing one hundred and fifty dollars. It is needless to say that Major Lewis was overcome with feelings of gratitude and thereafter on account of the two Christmas surprises, the postoffice work was improved still more.

#### FIREMEN'S TOURNAMENT JUNE 12-14, 1888

The Southwestern Volunteer Firemen's Association held their annual tournament at Carthage and it was a great success, being attended by some twenty-five companies and \$3,500 was distributed in prizes.



FIRST-PRIZE WINNERS AT FIREMEN'S TOURNAMENT, JUNE, 1888

The firemen were quartered at Camp Thomas, in Central Park. One of the features of the tournament was a band concert, the opening night being attended by twelve bands combined for the occasion into one monster organization of one hundred pieces.

#### CARTHAGE ENTERTAINS THE GRAND LODGE K. OF P.

In October, 1882, the Missouri Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, honored Carthage as the place of holding the annual legislative assembly.

The people of the county seat always entertain with a lavish hand and on this occasion did themselves proud. The business houses and many residences were beautifully decorated with the flag of the nation and the

colors of the order. The session lasted for three days and brought to the Queen City a thousand visitors including, besides the delegates to the grand body, eight divisions of the uniformed rank. Among these were drill corps from St. Louis, Sedalia, Moberly, Nevada, Fort Scott and Columbus, Kansas, as well as the uniformed divisions of Joplin and Carthage. The parade of the Uniformed Rank escorting the representatives to the place of meeting was an imposing affair and gave to Jasper county and Southwestern Missouri its first glimpse of the red-plumed Knights who, during the latter 'eighties and 'nineties created such wild excitement at the national encampment of the order.

One hundred and fifty dollars was given away in prizes. The championship prize open to all divisions was won by the then celebrated Tanered Division of Columbus, Kansas, winners of the second prize at New Orleans in 1884 and the first prize at Toronto, Canada, in 1886. The first prize, open to Missouri drill teams, was won by the Sedalia knights, where the divisions from Moberly and St. Louis also carried off honors.

At the close of the first day's session a grand ball was participated in by the members of the order. At this meeting of the grand lodge, John H. Holmes, now for twenty years reelected grand keeper of records and seals came into prominent notice, making a taking speech in presenting a jewel for faithful service to Charles J. Gelwitz, then holding that office, and being designated by the grand chancellor as the leader of the grand march at the military ball.

#### JASPER COMMANDERY, No. 31, K. T.

What St. John's day is to Masonry, so Ascension day is to the Knights Templar. The occasion is the one day during the year when an appropriate celebration is always had.

This important annual event was three times publicly observed by the Carthage commandery, until during the 'eighties the exercises of 1885 were perhaps the most elaborate of its public gatherings. Ascension commandery of Joplin, and Mount Olive of Lamar were the guests of the mother commandery and participated in the parade and other exercises. The day was concluded by a banquet at the Harrington Hotel. Among the speakers at the banquet were D. A. Preston, of Joplin, who spoke eloquently on the subject "Ancient Knighthood." Col. A. A. Hulett of Webb City spoke of "Templarism of Modern Times" and paid a glowing tribute to the work of the temple as exemplified now.

S. S. Wells, on behalf of Jasper commandery, responded to the toast "Carthage," while S. Wells, of Lamar, spoke of the tender memory of the Mount of Olives. H. H. Barns of Joplin told of the wondrous charm of lady fair, and paid a glowing compliment to the Eastern Star.

#### THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Stanton Post No. 16, Grand Army of the Republic, was mustered July 19, 1882, by Major William Warner, of Kansas City, then depart-

ment commander of that organization. As will be noted from the number, the Carthage Post was one of the first to be organized in the state and has always been a strong organization, both in point of numbers and good works. It has exerted a great influence in Carthage and has cared splendidly for its members. The feeling of comradeship has been strong and has brought the brothers-at-arms closer together as neighbors and friends.

The following were the Charter members of Stanton Post No. 16: Thomas Buckbee, second lieutenant, Company B, 13th Mo. Cav.; G. M. Hurley, ass't surgeon, Medical Staff; W. S. Bower, quarter gunner, United States Navy; T. A. Wakefield, first lieutenant, Company A, 8th Mo. Cav.; C. P. Phillips, private, Company A, 17th U. S. Col. Inf.; H. Armstrong, captain, Company A, 2d Mass. Cav.; Bennett Hall, sergeant, Company E, 129th Ill. Inf.; Amos H. Caffee, surgeon, 13th Kas. Inf.; Benton Tuttle, private, 1st N. Y. S. S.; Frank Hill, private, Company H, 5th Mass. Vol.; Jesse Rhoades, corporal, Company H, 30th Ill. Inf. Vol.; E. J. Montague, second sergeant, Company B, 9th Ill. Inf. Vol.; A. Pettyjohn, private, Company E, 88th Ind. Inf. Vol.; J. W. Burch, private, Company E, 107th Ill. Inf.; S. S. Riley, private, Company C, 23rd Ind. Inf.; E. R. Wheeler, private, Company E, 22nd Ill. Inf.; J. P. Hubbart, private, Company A, 2nd Ill. Cav.; A. B. Parkell, major, 4th Iowa Cav.; Dr. Miller, corporal, Company H, 9th Ind. Inf.; J. G. Irwin, first lieutenant, Company K, 18th Ohio Inf.; J. H. Coffman, second lieutenant, Company B, 126th Ill. Inf.; M. Shupert, private, Company D, 24th Ohio Inf.; H. Hubbart, private, Company F, 2d Ill. Cav.; R. L. Galbreath, second sergeant, Company L, 14th Pa. Cav.; Theo. F. Gray, second sergeant, Company I, 169th Ohio Inf.; J. H. Ralston, private, Company A, 16th Ill. Inf.; A. J. Crandall, private, Company C, 51st Wis. Inf.; Walter Benedict, private, Company B, 100th Ill. Inf.; R. G. Seawell, corporal, Company D, 100th Ill. Inf.; J. E. Twitchell, corporal, Company E, 6th Mo. Inf.; A. F. Lewis, lieutenant, Company I, 13th Kans. Inf.; John C. Gill, private, Company B, 40th Ill. Inf.; G. Rose, private, Company G, 15th Ill. Cav.; Charles Pool, corporal, Company B, 24th Ind. Inf.; Sam Wetzel, captain, Company B, 29th Ind. Inf.; John T. Hodsheir, private, Company E, 4th Mo. Cav.; E. Edwards, private, Company C, 12th Mo. Inf.; J. C. Bridges, private, Company K, 21st Ill. Inf.; Charles Bovard, private, Company G, 11th Pa. Inf.; Josiah Tilden, paymaster, U. S. A.; C. W. Botkin, private, Company H, 1st Ala. Cav.; H. P. Sloan, captain, Company C, 74th Ill. Inf.; E. C. Stephenson, private, Company D, 36th Wis. Inf.; Andrew Russell, private, Company I, 14th Iowa Inf.; W. O. Robinson, second sergeant, Company F, 16th Iowa Inf.

#### THE CARTHAGE SKATING RINK

In 1884 Messrs. J. E. Sombart and Frank Jeans built a skating rink which at that date was the finest institution of the kind west of the Mississippi. The structure is one hundred and fourteen by sixty-six feet,



the auditorium being one hundred by sixty-six. The building, since 1890, has been used as an armory for the Carthage Light Guard and is admirably fitted for drill purposes. The old rink has been the scene of many a brilliant military ball and other social functions where space was a factor. The building originally cost \$5,000.

#### CARTHAGE CITY HALL

In 1884 Carthage built a commodious city hall, and we clip, from the *Banner* of June 6, 1884, the following description of the building: "Certainly no fault can be found with the contractors for the new city hall with reference to their promptness in completing the building. Their contract called for its completion by the 13th of July, 1884. The structure was today turned over to the city for examination and acceptance. Another feature of the business upon which the city is to be congratulated is that the city hall is a fixed fact without having exceeded the \$7,000 voted for the purpose.

"It is a building of which our city may be proud. It is not particularly magnificent, but is neat, commodious, conveniently arranged and in every way fills the bill.

"The ground floor contains the city jail, which is subdivided into a corridor and five cells, six by eight feet each, besides the iron cage which is seven by fourteen feet, the remainder of the ground floor, twenty-two by forty-three feet is intended for the fire department, and is connected by an archway in one corner with the hose tower.

"The second floor is divided by a hall way running the full length of the building north and south. On the west of the hall is the recorder's court room, eighteen by forty-five feet in dimensions, with a stairway at the south end leading to the jail department, for the convenience of those lodging below who are called upon to meet His Honor. On the east side of the hall are three rooms for the use of the various city officers. Water, gas and every convenience are admirably distributed throughout the building. A broad stairway from the front on Grant street, which goes up between the city hall and Harrington & Sanderson's new block, affords the main communication of the offices with the outer world, besides which however the hallway extends clear across the block and the building is accessible from Harrington's front stairway opening on the public square.

"The city council this morning thoroughly inspected the building and found it in every particular up to contract. Messrs. Harrington & Sanderson will receive due credit from the public for the promptness and thoroughness with which they performed their obligations to the city."



## CHAPTER XXIII

### JOPLIN, CIVIC AND BUSINESS

THE WHITE LEAD WORKS—ZINC FACTORY—WOOLEN MILL—JOPLIN FLOURING MILL—FIRST STREET CAR LINE—WATER WORKS—BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION—THE JOPLIN CLUB—INTRODUCTION OF TELEPHONE—ELECTRIC LIGHTS—CITY POLITICS AND AFFAIRS—FIRE DEPARTMENT—BANKS AND BANKING—THE NORTH ROAD—THE SPLITLOG (KANSAS CITY & SOUTHERN) RAILWAY—SCHOOLS DURING THE 'EIGHTIES—FORMAL ADOPTION OF HIGH SCHOOL COURSE—ARBOR DAY—FIRST COMMENCEMENT—HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY—DISTRICT OF JOPLIN ORGANIZED—COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

Joplin during the 'eighties made a steady and continuous growth, although there was no period that could have been designated as a boom. The following business ventures figured prominently in the upbuilding of the city.

#### THE WHITE LEAD WORKS

As mentioned in our chapter on Joplin during the 'seventies, the white lead works revolutionized the manner of handling that ore, and when it became a fixture in the mining district the other lead furnaces, one by one, suspended operations and the smelting industry centered in the lead factory of Moffet & Sergeant.

The original plant of the lead works was destroyed by fire on April 3, 1880, and was rebuilt at once, the new factory being double the size of the old works.

During the middle 'eighties the lead works were sold by Moffet & Sergeant to a company composed of L. P. Cunningham and others and they, in turn, sold the plant to the Picher Lead Company, the present owners of the works.

The white lead from the Picher factory is now sold in all the markets of the world, the United States government being a purchaser, using the Joplin sublimated lead to paint the battleships.

#### THE ZINC FACTORY

Another institution which was of vast importance to Joplin during the 'eighties and the 'nineties was the zinc works located on west Ninth street, just north of the cemetery. The company was organized in December, 1881, by P. Murphy, William Byers, Thomas Connor, T. A.

McClelland, O. H. Picher, L. P. Cunningham, C. H. Brewster and Ed. Zilliken. Here a number of furnaces were built for the reduction of zinc and a large amount of the mineral of the Joplin district was there made ready for the market. A hundred or more men were employed and its influence was greatly felt in a manufacturing way. The works later became the property of the Empire Zinc Company, and when the natural gas fields of Kansas offered a cheap fuel were torn down and moved to the sunflower state.

#### THE WOOLEN MILLS

The later part of 1882 a number of the leading business men of the city conceived the idea of making Joplin a manufacturing, as well as a mining center, and organized the Joplin Woolen Mills Company with a capital of \$25,000.

The mill was built in 1883 at the corner of Eleventh and Main



BROADWAY, EAST JOPLIN, IN 1883  
(Old mule cars making first trip.)

streets and for four years was operated with a fair degree of success. In 1884 the capital of the company was increased to \$50,000.

During the later 'eighties the operations of the mill were not successful and the plant was leased to the Inland Lead and Paint Company and turned into a paint factory.

#### JOPLIN FLOURING MILL

In 1882 John B. Sergeant built the Joplin Flouring mill, a three-story brick building on the site of the Brand-Dunwoody Milling Company's plant, Eleventh and Wall streets.

This was Joplin's first mill and proved a great boom to the city, as it brought, to Joplin many farmers, with their grains, who previously had gone elsewhere.

The mill when first built had a capacity of grinding one hundred

barrels a day, and its elevator had a capacity of 40,000 bushels. During the first year of business the mill ground 20,000 bushels of wheat. This mill was destroyed by fire in 1892 and was rebuilt by W. G. Sergeant, a son of the original builder. The mill now belongs to the Brand-Dunwoody Milling Company who have since doubled its capacity, making it a 300-barrel a day plant.

#### FIRST STREET CAR LINE

John B. Sergeant, after having made a fortune out of the mines, did not go elsewhere to seek investment, but used the large capital he had made to further build up and develop Joplin. We noted during the 'seventies his connection with the first railway that was built by the City of Lead, and so, in the 'eighties, we find him organizing a company to build a street car line.

On November 15, 1882, a franchise was granted to John B. Sergeant to build a street car line in the city. The Joplin Street Car Company was organized with a capital of \$20,000 and a mule car line built, the road extending from East Broadway to the zinc works on West Ninth and traversing Broadway in East Joplin and Main and Ninth streets in West Joplin. The car barns were on Broadway in the old Collins stable. The company operated four cars and owned eighteen span of mules which were used as the motor power. Clark Craycroft was the superintendent and general manager of the road. With the advent of electricity as a motive power of the old mule cars passed off the stage and made way for the up-to-date mode of transportation.

#### THE WATER WORKS

As mentioned in our section devoted to the 'seventies that the great majority of the people who came to Joplin in its early day did not expect to remain longer than to make a quick fortune. Consequently the early improvements were not of a permanent character. The houses were quickly put together, but few people dug wells or cisterns, and the main water supply was from the water wagon. S. O. Ellis, of East Joplin, had a deep well from which he secured a fine supply of water which, was sold to his customers, but the great majority of water haulers obtained their supply from the mining pumps. With these conditions the establishment of a water works system was hailed with delight.

Shortly after his election as mayor W. E. Maynard appointed a committee of citizens and the city council to act jointly and to investigate and report a feasible plan to build a water works system for Joplin. The committee consisted of L. A. Filmore, P. Murphy, J. Hewitt, O. H. Pieher, A. B. McCarty, Dan Collins, C. J. Lewis, P. E. Blow, W. L. Harris, and A. C. Blakey.

The committee held a number of sessions and during their settings listened to three propositions by C. E. Gray of St. Louis, Charles H. Fuller of Decatur, Paul B. Perkins of Geneseo, Illinois. The one sub-

mitted by Mr. Perkins seemed the most feasible and on the 22d of December, 1880, the committee submitted its report to the city council recommending that a franchise be granted to that gentleman and that the system of water works proposed by him be adopted.

The matter was submitted to a vote of the people and at a special election held on January 11, 1881, was carried by a tremendous majority—1,229 votes being cast in favor of the proposition and only 31 against it.

The Joplin Water Works Company, successors of Paul B. Perkins, was incorporated April 9, 1881, with a capital of \$124,000. The officers of the company were O. H. President, president; P. Murphy, vice president and treasurer; L. P. Cunningham, secretary, and C. J. Lewis, superintendent.

The works were built during the summer and fall of 1881; a public test, which proved highly satisfactory, was made October 20th, and the plant was formally accepted by the city and opened to the public on November 1st.

The building of the water works was perhaps the most important event of the 'eighties and marked the beginning of the passing from an overgrown mining camp to an up-to-date city. With their building came a modern fire department and adequate fire protection. It lessened insurance rates and supplied the city with a quantity of fresh water from beautiful spring-fed Shoal creek. It made possible a water supply for factories, mills and mining plants. In short, it paved the way for a greater Joplin.

The building of the water works also gave a confidence in the stability of the city and was one of the factors in its real establishment. In 1882, the first year after the construction of the water works, some \$500,000 was spent in buildings of various kinds—not much for today, but then a considerable sum.

#### THE JOPLIN BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

Perhaps no other society did more toward building up Joplin than the Building and Loan Association, which was organized April 10, 1883. The capital stock was \$200,000, consisting of 200 shares of \$1,000 each. At the organization of the association it was agreed that no one should own or control more than ten shares, and in this way a large number of people were interested and the possibility of a few controlling the association was precluded.

During the 'eighties and later years this association was the means of assisting a great many people to build homes, and also benefited the city as a whole by starting the home-building boom which commenced in the 'eighties.

The association also fostered a love of the beautiful and inaugurated an era of better building.

The first board of directors in the Joplin Building and Loan Association, comprised John H. Taylor, Clark Craycroft, W. B. Holyard,



C. J. Lewis, G. B. Young, A. H. Warle, D. C. McConny, W. H. Fairbanks and J. C. Gaston.

### THE JOPLIN CLUB

The Joplin Club (now the Joplin Commercial Club) was organized in October, 1888, and from then to now has been a great factor in the building of the city. The following were its first officers: President, Galen Spencer; vice president, Thos. Connor; secretary, W. H. Proudfoot; treasurer, Gilbert Barbee.

The objects of the club, when organized were two-fold—first, to foster and encourage whatever would build up or improve the city of Joplin and, secondly, to promote a better spirit of friendship among the business men of the city, and to this end the social feature was cultivated.

The first place of meeting was in the Barbee building, where a beautiful suite of rooms was fitted up and used until the building of the Club Theatre building in 1890, when the present quarters were occupied.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE TELEPHONE

In 1881 a telephone exchange was installed in Joplin and neighboring towns by C. W. McDaniels, and put in operation in October of that year. The interests of Mr. McDaniels were later absorbed by the Bell Telephone Company. The telephone, which then was regarded as a great curiosity, is now in this twentieth century day of progress almost a necessity. The total number of 'phones in use in Joplin now—including those of both the Bell and the Home—number over 7,000.

### ELECTRIC LIGHTS

The electric light was first seen in Joplin in 1882 at the Cole circus, where the tent and grounds were illuminated with lights generated from a dynamo and apparatus carried by the show. In 1887 G. W. Sergeant, son of J. B. Sergeant, and like his father, a man of great energy, built an electric light plant on Joplin street, between Fourth and Fifth, the site of the present office of the Empire District Light and Power Company. The first exhibition light was erected at Fourth and Main streets, and after its power and excellence had been demonstrated a contract was awarded his company to light the streets in the business district. The Empire District Electric Light and Power Company the successors to the franchises granted Mr. Sergeant and John W. Freeman, et al., has a total capacity of forty 2,000-candle power lights.

### CITY POLITICS AND AFFAIRS

At the city election in October, 1880, W. E. Maynard was reelected mayor, being petitioned by the citizens to accept the chair a second

term. The other officers chosen were: L. C. Hamilton, marshal; W. B. McAntire, police judge; George Oreor, city attorney; A. C. Pyle, treasurer; S. O. Elles, G. B. Young, A. P. McCarty, W. L. Harris, L. Hare, Hugh Dyer, L. A. Filmore and W. B. Holyard, members of the city council. J. P. Newell was appointed city clerk and F. E. Williams, collector. The important event of Mr. Maynard's administration was the building of the water works, already mentioned.

## 1881

In October, 1881, the city election passed off quietly, Galen Spencer, then one of the leading lawyers of the city, being elected mayor and, like his predecessor, being brought out by a petition signed by numerous friends. With Mr. Spencer the following gentlemen came into the council: M. F. Downy, S. Landauer, John C. Bailey, Charles Gaide, M. Clark and J. C. Mason, with Messrs. Elles and Fillmore holding over.

The other officers elected were: L. C. Hamilton, marshal; F. M. Redburn, police judge; Thomas Dolan, city attorney; G. B. Carson, treasurer; B. T. Webb, city clerk, and F. E. Williams, collector.

Mr. Spencer was reelected mayor in 1882.

## 1883

At the city election in October, 1883, there was but one candidate for mayor, W. B. Holyard, and with him were elected the following officers: City council—H. Petitt, J. C. Gaston, J. C. Bailey, and W. V. White; marshal, L. C. Hamilton; police judge, F. M. Redburn; city attorney, J. W. McAntire; treasurer, G. B. Carson.

## 1884

At the election in 1884 the following were inducted into the official chairs: Mayor, A. B. McCarty; city attorney, J. W. McAntire; treasurer, Jas. B. Glover, Jr.; marshal, L. C. Hamilton; city council, Alexander Campbell, J. L. Briggs, W. H. Warren and J. A. Shepherd.

## 1885

Mayor—A. B. McCarty.

Marshal—L. C. Hamilton.

Police judge—F. M. Redburn.

Treasurer—J. B. Glover.

Attorney—J. W. McAntire.

It will be noted that the entire administration was reelected. The following new members came into the council: Chancellor Livingston, Charles Schifferdecker, J. W. Gill and Sidney Hire.

The interesting feature of the election was the choosing of a councilman in the First ward. Four candidates were in the field, all of them receiving about the same strength. Messrs. Chancellor Livingston

and Bracken Wilson tied, and the matter was decided by lot, Mr. Livingston drawing the lucky ticket which gave him the seat.

#### MURDER AND LYNCHING

After the adoption of the prohibitory law in Kansas and the closing of the saloons of Galena, Joe Thornton, a desperate character, erected on the state line a double building, located half in Missouri and half in Kansas. On the Missouri side was a saloon and on the Kansas side a gambling house. Joe Thornton and his hangers-on were a source of annoyance to the officers of both Jasper and Cherokee counties.

On July 19, 1885, Thornton came to Joplin and Deputy Sheriff J. C. Miller, Constable H. H. Haven and Officer Daniel Sheehan, of the Joplin police force, went to Swarts' famous 144 (one of the popular dry goods stores), where Thornton was making some purchases, for the purpose of arresting him. Deputy Sheriff Miller walked up to Thornton and informed him that he had a warrant for his arrest. Thornton wheeled and quickly drew his revolver. The three officers grappled with him, and endeavored to take his revolver away. In the scuffle Thornton discharged the weapon and killed Sergeant Sheehan. Deputy Sheriff Miller and Constable Haven then overpowered him and safely lodged him in the city jail.

Sergeant Sheehan was exceedingly popular, and during his long service on the police force had discharged his duties faithfully, and that night a large number of citizens came to the jail, took Thornton out and hung him to a tree at the corner of Second and Joplin streets.

The people of Joplin, in order to commemorate the memory of the brave police officer, erected a handsome marble monument at his grave in Fairview cemetery.

With the lynching of Thornton the lawlessness on the border came to an end.

1886

At the fall election, in 1886, Mr. McCarty declined to be a candidate for a third term and J. L. Briggs, the popular agent of the Frisco Railway was elected mayor. L. C. Hamilton, who for ten years had served the people as marshal, also declined to be a candidate for re-election and was succeeded by Calvin Nickel, who won over four other candidates by a margin of 39 votes. M. T. Downing was elected treasurer and Thos. Dolan city attorney.

The councilmen chosen at this election were J. M. Sackett, J. M. Wise, James Roach and M. G. Harris.

1887

The city electors of 1887 was an exceptionally interesting one, inasmuch as there were many aspirants for honors and also because it was exceptionally close for three of the important positions—mayor, attorney and marshal.

Chancellor Livingston, of the First Ward, was elected mayor by one vote; J. J. Cofer, city marshal, by twenty-eight, and Messrs. Thomas Dolan and J. W. McAntire being tied for city attorney.

L. C. Hamilton, who for so many years was city marshal, was elected police judge, and M. F. Downing reelected treasurer.

The following gentlemen were elected to the city council: Alexander Campbell, Charles Schifferdecker, J. B. Minor and J. V. Hibbard.

During this administration the city surrendered its special charter and organized as a city of the third class. The proposition which had been defeated at the regular election in October, '87, carried at the special election on May 8th by a nice majority.

The vote on the question was as follows: For the new charter—First ward, 84; Second ward, 289; Third ward, 48; Fourth ward, 211.

Against surrender—First ward, 99; Second ward, 48; Third ward, 65; Fourth ward, 54.

Majority for the charter, 326.

It will be observed that the heaviest vote cast against the new charter was in Lone Elm, where the people lived almost entirely on unplatted and mining lands and where it was thought that, with the adoption of the new charter, more stringent laws would prevail relative to stock running at large, building of streets, sidewalks, etc. The heavy vote for the proposition was in the down-town district, where laws providing for public improvements were greatly desired.

Next to the building of the water works the adoption of the third-class charter was the most important happening of the 'eighties, because it opened up a way for public improvements, such as street paving and the construction of sewers, as well as many police regulations not provided for in the old charter.

With these regulations and renewed confidence in Joplin's future greatness a building boom came on which did not abate until the panic of 1893. During 1888 the area of the city was increased, extending from the original southern limits at Tenth street to Fourteenth. South Joplin built up very rapidly, two additions being laid out and quickly sold that year. The next year, 1889, five more additions were placed on the market and the city limits extended to Twentieth street.

## 1889

The election of this year was notable because it was the last one held without nomination from the several political parties, and also the first one held under the new charter, the time being by the new laws changed from October to April.

The following were the successful candidates: Mayor, R. B. Tyler; recorder (police judge), W. B. McAntire; city attorney, J. W. McAntire; marshal, J. J. Cofer; treasurer-collector, J. W. Calvin; councilmen, First ward, Harmon Cline and Jas. A. Sherwood; Second ward, A. P. Hoyt and Frank Geier; Third ward, Z. A. Norris and J. A. Roach; Fourth ward, T. J. Field and W. V. White.



## JOPLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

After the completion of the water works the matter of organizing a fire department was taken up by the city council and a call was issued for a meeting at the Tabernacle on November 6, 1882, to perfect the organization. The meeting was largely attended and a volunteer department organized from among the best citizens of Joplin.

Clark Craycroft was chosen chief and G. W. Payton assistant. Four companies were organized, one for each ward, as follows: Hose Company No. 1, G. W. Payton, foreman; Hose Company No. 2, A. P. Hoyt, foreman; Hose Company No. 3, Jno. C. Bailey, foreman; Hose Company, No. 4, L. A. Fillmore, foreman.

The companies were equipped with hose carts, each carrying 2,500 feet of hose, and as an inducement for proficiency the company which threw water first on a fire was given a prize of ten dollars, in addition to \$1.50 which each firemen attending received.

In 1884 Major Craycroft retired from the department and George W. Payton of Company No. 1 became chief. Excepting one year he served as such until 1890. Aaron Haughton became assistant.

When Mr. Payton became chief Companies 1 and 2 were named in honor of two of the citizens who had won the favor of the community on account of their public spiritedness. No. 1 took the name of the S. C. Henderson Hose Company, in honor of Joplin's first wholesale grocer, and No. 2 became the C. J. Lewis Hose Company, Mr. Lewis at that time being superintendent of the water company and having been prominently connected with many other public enterprises.

During the 'eighties the volunteer fire department attained a high state of proficiency and at the tournament of the Southwestern Firemen's Association carried off a number of prizes.

At the Southwestern firemen's tournament held in Carthage in June, 1888, and attended by 1,400 firemen from Missouri, Kansas, and Arkansas, S. C. Henderson Company No. 1, carried off first prize in the 100-yard contest, making the run, laying 100 feet of hose and throwing water. C. J. Lewis Company No. 2 won first prize in the 200-yard contest, their time being 1:18.

In April, 1889, John W. Gillis was appointed chief and L. A. Fillmore assistant chief. The head of the department secured from the city council an appropriation of \$500 for uniforms for his men. At the tournament at Clinton that year the Joplin department made a most elegant showing and won the prize offered for the best appearing department attending the meeting. During this year Capt. C. J. Lewis, after whom Company 2 was named, moved to Hannibal and the members of the company presented him, on the eve of his departure, with an elegant silver loving cup as a testimonial of their regard for him.

## BANKS AND BANKING

During the 'eighties two new financial institutions were launched in Joplin and both were successful to a high degree.

In February, 1882, Thomas W. Cunningham established the Bank of Joplin. George A. Case, who had been the cashier of the Moffet & Sergeant bank of Joplin, was made the cashier of the new concern, and remained with it until the middle 'nineties, when he retired on account of ill health. The Bank of Joplin had a most unique history. Its capital was \$5,000. At the end of the first year the greater portion of the earnings was carried into the surplus; and at the close of each succeeding year the surplus was increased and continued to grow until 1907, when it reached \$300,000, sixty times the capital. During the panic of 1907, Mr. Cunningham, with the view of helping relieve the financial stringency, nationalized his bank, thus converting \$200,000 of bonds into ready cash and materially assisting in reestablishing confidence in Joplin.

The First National Bank of Joplin was organized in January, 1888, with the following officers and directors: President, Chas. Schifferdicker; vice president, D. A. Preston; cashier, J. A. Cragin; directors, E. Lloyd, Galen Spencer, L. Riseling and J. C. Stewart.

The bank opened for business during the following March. One of its first important transactions was the purchase of thirty thousand dollars of the City of Joplin funding bonds, issued on the occasion of the surrender of the old city charter and the organization of a city of the third class.

This bank showed its faith in Joplin by building a three-story brick bank building during the early 'nineties. It has recently acquired the Empire Building between Fifth and Sixth streets, on Main street, and will shortly move into larger quarters.

#### THE NORTH ROAD

One of the important factors in the building up of Ancient Rome was her magnificent system of public roads. The imperial government recognized Rome as the hub around which the commerce of the nation revolved, and so, like spokes in a wheel, well built and splendidly macadamized roads were constructed in all directions from the city and an easy mode of transportation provided, so that all business would center in the city on the Tiber, "All roads lead to Rome."

In 1886 the business men of Joplin recognized the importance of more and better-built roads leading into Joplin, and a committee, consisting of C. J. Lewis, Charles Schifferdecker, A. F. Donnan, and others, was appointed to devise ways and means to build a road running north from Joplin to Spring river. Some \$3,000 was subscribed, the right-of-way obtained across the Kansas City Bottom and a fine road worked from First street and Main to Galesburg. This was the beginning of our splendid road system.

#### MISSOURI PACIFIC RAILWAY

The Missouri Pacific Railway was built to Joplin in 1882, the first train from Kansas City running into the city on June 19th. A. O. T.

Pennington, a most accommodating and pleasant gentleman, came to Joplin as agent for the road and his affable manners soon built up for the road an extensive patronage.

This line was of immense value to Joplin and the entire mining district, because it gave another competing line to both St. Louis & Kansas City. The Missouri Pacific Railway also brought to the city another express train—the Pacific Express Company—and materially facilitated transportation facilities.

#### THE SPLITLOG (KANSAS CITY AND SOUTHERN) RAILWAY

In 1887 a wealthy Indian, Mathias Splitlog, living in McDonald county, conceived the idea of building a railway from North Arkansas to Kansas City, and put up a considerable sum toward organizing a company which was formed, having for its object the building of a line from the Gulf of Mexico to Kansas City.

The line was first built from the Cowskin river in McDonald county, to Joplin, and formally opened January 1, 1889. On January 3rd Mayor Livingston, the city council and about 200 business men as the guests of the railroad visited Neosho and were royally entertained by the people of that place. On January 7th Neosho gave Joplin a surprise party, coming up en masse, to return the visit.

These two friendly visits were the beginning of a friendly business relation between the two cities which has existed to this day. The name of the road was shortly afterward changed to the Pittsburg & Gulf, and on its completion to Kansas City became the Kansas City & Southern.

#### SCHOOLS DURING THE 'EIGHTIES

As mentioned in our school story of the 'seventies there was three separate school districts in Joplin—East Joplin, West Joplin and Lone Elm. The schools were operated separately until 1889, when they were consolidated into a city district, but before taking up the narrative of the organization of the school district of Joplin we will touch briefly the important happenings of the three districts up to the consolidation.

In East Joplin the course of study was divided into eight years' work, but the eight years were equivalent to the course of study mapped out for the graded schools and most of the branches in the first two years in the high school, as now arranged. There was no attempt at a formal graduation, but on the completion of the work nearly every pupil went before the county school commissioner and took the examination for a teacher's certificate and the passing of this examination was equivalent to a completion of the course of study. Of course many of the pupils who secured certificates did not intend to teach, but secured them as a matter of personal pride and for the purpose of having something to show for their school work. Of the seventeen pupils in the A class, room 1, for 1884, every one successfully passed the teacher's examination and

was granted a certificate. A high standard was maintained in East Joplin until 1886, when a crisis came which detracted from the thoroughness of the school work.

The general assembly of 1885 passed a law forbidding the issuance of a warrant when there was no money in the treasury to meet the same. It so happened that at the close of 1885 there was a deficit and warrants had been issued to pay salaries and incidental expenses of that year and had to be taken care of out of the revenue of 1886. This necessitated a short term, brought the schools to a close at the end of four months and a half and prevented the class of 1886 completing the course mapped out. During the winter of 1886 the pupils gave several entertainments to raise money for coal, one of which, by the way, was a money maker. It was given in an improvised theater—a store room half filled with baled hay. This was no drawback however, for where there is a will there is a way. A stage was made by piling up one tier of baled hay and covering it with planks brought in from a lumberyard. On either side of the wall the bales were extended to the ceiling giving a stage-like effect and also serving the purpose of wings. Chairs were brought in and the entertainment was given to a packed house, enough money being raised to buy coal the rest of the winter.

We append below a list of the gentlemen who served the district as members of the school board and the teaching force when it was the East Joplin School District.

Members of the school board: John C. Cox, Jeremiah Fink, D. P. Ballard, G. D. Jackson, H. J. Blackwell, J. C. Maddy, D. Y. Moore, F. A. McClelland, G. W. Payton, W. L. Harris, T. K. Medder, O. B. Hamlin, J. B. Thomas, T. B. Samules, Calvin Nickell, James Woodward, E. M. Nash, J. W. Henry, J. T. Martin, B. Wilson, D. S. Lutman, J. W. Newton and N. B. Lichliter.

Principals: S. B. Ormsby (1874-5), S. A. Underwood, James A. Race, G. W. McKinney, T. H. Riffer, L. B. Burr, J. M. Stevenson, Miss Janette Houghton, J. F. Martin, Walter Atkinson, W. P. Roberts, Mrs. Jennie Gilliland, Henry Phelps and W. L. Taylor.

Teachers: Anna Heath, Georgia Gates, W. B. Webster, Geo. H. Smeetzer, Josie Culpepper, W. H. John, Tealie Underwood, Emma Shorter, Mrs. Fannie Hays, Mrs. Emma Young, Fannie Nickell, Joel T. Livingston, Jennie Robertson, Rebecca Snyder, W. A. Nickell and Kate Reid.

#### LONE ELM SCHOOL DISTRICT

In 1880 the Lone Elm school began to decline, not in efficiency, because it continued up to the consolidation to be a strong school, but in point of numbers.

In 1879 a dispute arose between the citizens of Lone Elm and the Granby Company, the owners of the fee to the land on which the great majority of the houses were built. Up to that date no ground rent for



the space occupied by the houses, had been charged to the miners working their land, and many of them owned the houses in which they lived. The later part of 1879, however, the company changed its policy and decided to charge a monthly rental for the ground. The miners felt that as they were developing the land and making for the company handsome royalties they were entitled to live near the mines and that ground rent should not be imposed. About the time that this controversy was started Messrs. Byers and Murphy laid out an addition to the city west of the 'Frisco railway tracks and placed them on the market at an exceptionally small price.

A hundred or more families from Lone Elm bought lots in the new suburb and moved their houses to this new haven of refuge, which was called Byersville. As a result of this exodus, the school enumeration of 1880 showed a decided falling off and the apportionment of the public funds gave to Lone Elm a greatly reduced sum.

The following served in the Lone Elm schools during the 'eighties: L. Z. Burr, Tealie Underwood, D. B. Wilson, J. W. Henry, G. P. Garland, H. Phelps and Philip Arnold as principals; and Mrs. L. Z. Burr, Mrs. Sue Phelps, A. W. Mitchel, Rachel Shaw, William H. Lee, Amanda Wilson, Helen Jones, and several others whose names are not obtainable on account of the failure to preserve the old records, as under-teachers.

#### WEST JOPLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The year 1880 found the population of the three school districts as follows: East Joplin, 1,712; West Joplin, 4,526; Lone Elm, 1,200.\*

It will be noted by these figures that West Joplin had outstripped both East Joplin and Lone Elm and contained a population of approximately 1,500 more than the other two districts combined and was by this time counted the main part of the town. Naturally, therefore, the West Joplin schools grew in importance—and West Joplin was the first district to establish a high school.

During the fall of 1879 J. C. Mason resigned the superintendency to take up the practice of law and the Rev. J. F. Martin filled out the unexpired term, teaching the High School, as the highest room was called, in the study of the Tabernacle. For the term of 1880-1 Philip Arnold was made superintendent and served until 1884, when Mr. Mason was again recalled and the high school placed in charge of Mr. Arnold. During Mr. Arnold's incumbency and as superintendent, Messrs. C. H. Lethbridge, Henry Phelps and J. M. Stephenson had charge of the High School.

#### THE BUILDING OF THE CENTRAL SCHOOL

At a special election held February 7, 1883, the West Joplin School District voted \$20,000 in bonds for the erection of school houses; \$16,200 was apportioned for the Central school building; \$2,500 for a two-room

\*These figures represent the entire population and include a few hundred residing on the outskirts of the city, but a part of the several school districts.

school at Byersville; \$400 for the moving of the Byersville school to Perkins avenue (now the Garfield) and \$900 for a colored school.

The teaching force was increased and the pupils nicely taken care of until after the consolidation of the three districts in 1889, when a building boom came on.

Mr. Mason was succeeded, in 1886, by W. T. Hammer of Lamar and he, in 1888, by R. D. Shannon, late state superintendent of schools.

#### FORMAL ADOPTION OF A HIGH SCHOOL COURSE

Until 1886 the school board had not formally adopted a specific course of study for the high school, or prescribed the standard of excellency for graduation, but had left the course of study and the rules and regulations largely to the superintendent and high school teachers. New branches had been added from time to time until the course of study pursued equalled that of Carthage, Springfield and other southwestern Missouri cities, but no attempt had been made at graduation. On the coming of Superintendent Hammer, however, the board formally promulgated a high school course and the pupils, who heretofore worked at random—that is, so far as graduation was concerned—were classified and began to work toward a definite end, the first class graduating in 1888.

The first high school course consisted of three years' work, as follows: First year—Higher arithmetic, United States history, grammar, zoology, composition, physiology and botany.

Second year—Algebra, general history, physiology, geology, physics, elocution and natural philosophy.

Third year—Geometry, rhetoric, English and American literature, mental and moral philosophy.

#### ARBOR DAY

Arbor day was first observed in the Joplin schools, April 16, 1886, when a large number of trees were planted and the school yards beautified. At the Central school, in April, 1887, appropriate exercises were held and a large number of trees planted by the pupils, each room purchasing and planting a tree which was named after some great citizen of the nation. The two trees planted by the High School were named Peter Cooper and Lafayette, while other rooms in the grade planted trees commemorating Washington, Jefferson, Garfield and other noted statesmen. Many of these trees lived and to this day furnish shade in the old school grounds.

#### THE FIRST COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

This first class from the West Joplin schools was graduated May 18, 1888. The following are its members and the grades made at the final examination: Ida Coffee, 96.8; Cora Lichliter, 96.7; Mamie Robertson, 96.5; Johanna Becker, 96; Tillie Hamilton, 95.6; Lee Lichliter, 95.1; William A. Nickell, 94.5; Blanche Sergeant, 94.4; Taylor Snapp, 91.9;

Cora Hoyt, 90.9; Leroy Lapsley, 90.8; Olivar P. Simpson, 90.2 and William Lackie, 89.

Of this class the first seven became teachers; one of them, W. A. Nickell, principal of the Jackson school, is still connected with the schools and is the oldest teacher of the corps in point of continuous service.

Two, T. F. Snapp and Olivar P. Simpson, became bankers and are still prominent in the financial world.

Leroy Lapsley became an electrician of note and William Lackie, later a graduate of Cornell, a skilled mechanical engineer. Miss Cora Hoyt entered the drygoods house of Christman & Blendurg, and later married one of the firm, while Miss Sergeant, rich in her own right, did not enter the business world other than to look after her real estate holdings.

[In the section of this work devoted to the last decade will be found a list of the graduates from 1888 to 1910, together with such data as is obtainable from the superintendent's report for 1910.]

The High School Alumni was organized the week following the graduation of the first class in 1888, with W. A. Nickell as president and Johanna Becker as secretary.

#### THE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

The honor of founding the Joplin Public School Library belongs to Philip Arnold, and connected with its establishment is the following incident.

In 1881, when the high school occupied but one room in the original Central school the library was founded.

One day the topic in history was about the founding of Yale. The lesson was a reminiscence of the struggle undergone in the establishment of the Yale college library, and related at length how eleven preachers had each brought a book, and dedicated it to the founding of that famous collection.

The next morning Mr. Arnold brought a book to the school, and presented it as the initial volume for the founding of a high school library. Some of the pupils followed his example and thus was the nucleus formed for the present magnificent collection of works on all scientific and educational topics.

This small collection of books gradually grew and in 1888, on the 22nd of February a library entertainment was given by the public schools and annually thereafter for a number of years on that date, a library benefit was had. In 1890 the school board made an appropriation for library purposes and from then until now a library fund has been a part of the annual taxation. In 1891 the library work was extended to the grade schools and a number of good books placed in each room in the city. Previous to the building of the public library the high school list of books had grown to 3,000 volumes, but now, with the magnificent collection at the public reading rooms, the school library is not as much used as formerly.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF JOPLIN ORGANIZED

During the middle 'eighties the matter of consolidating East Joplin, Lone Elm and West Joplin into a city district was agitated, but local jealousies prevented the union, the matter having twice been voted down. But during the winter of '88-9 a campaign of education was formally taken up by the school boards of East and West Joplin and the voters were made acquainted with the benefits to be derived from an abandonment of the county school district system.

The matter was submitted to a vote of the three districts in April, 1889, and resulted as follows: For consolidation—East Joplin, 124; West Joplin, 252; Lone Elm, 5.

Against—East Joplin, 1; West Joplin, 24; Lone Elm, 33.

Lone Elm having voted against the consolidation, made it necessary to refer the matter to the county commissioner for decision, and Commissioner J. M. Stevenson decided in favor of the union and formally issued his proclamation organizing the school district of Joplin and calling for an election of six directors for the new district.

The following is a list of the directors who served the West Joplin district up to the consolidation: J. B. Sergeant, M. A. Stafford, C. J. G. Workizer, J. H. McCoy, William Carter, J. E. H. Chapman, R. L. Stiles, Y. J. Howell, William Byers, J. G. Mathews, Galen Spencer, W. J. Haslett, C. W. Dykeman, W. S. Harmony, S. C. Price, J. C. Mason, A. W. Stillwell, J. A. Shepherd, W. B. McAntire, W. V. White, W. P. Owen, L. A. Fillmore.

## FIRST BOARD OF EDUCATION OF NEW DISTRICT

At the special election for members of the board of education there were sixteen candidates and the voting was heavy. The following received the higher number of votes and were declared elected: F. E. Williams, W. B. Halyard, George W. Payton, O. B. Hamlin, D. A. Preston and W. V. White. The board organized by the election of F. E. Williams as president, O. B. Hamlin, vice president and D. W. Wenrich, clerk.

The enumeration of the consolidated district showed 2,634 boys and girls between the ages of six and 20.

## THE FIRST CORPS OF TEACHERS

The new board of education selected the following corps for the consolidated school district of Joplin: Superintendent, R. D. Shannon; principal High School, S. A. Underwood; assistant High School, V. L. Vawter.

Central School teachers: Clara Ditte, Lola Spear, Laura Snyder, Jennie Shannon, Cora Lichliter, Virgie Van Meeter, Mrs. S. J. Haven and Mattie Greere.

East Joplin School—Principal, L. W. Kost; teachers, V. Lectie Peaks, Kate Reid and Mamie Robertson.



East Fourth Street School—Principal, Maggie Murphy; assistant, Willie Franklin.

West Fourth Street School—Principal, Mollie Robertson; teachers, Addie Ellison and Emma V. Shorters.

Byersville School—Principal, Joel T. Livingston; assistant, Ida Colfre.

Lone Elm School—Principal, W. A. Nickell; assistant, Tillie Hamilton.

Perkins Avenue School—Mrs. Addie Wood.

Colored School—W. T. Greene.

With the consolidation of the schools, the high school curriculum was revised and made a full four-years' course and for the past twelve years has been recognized by the State University and State Teachers' Normal Schools, its graduates being admitted without examination to those institutions

#### CROWDED CONDITION, FALL OF 1889

The boom which came on in 1889 brought to the city a great number of people and the public schools were crowded from the very beginning. In many of the primary rooms more than a hundred pupils were enrolled and it became necessary to resort to half-day sessions in ten of the twenty-six rooms.

We will continue the school record in our section of the '90s.

#### THE CONVENT

In 1885 the Our Lady of Mercy Convent was established in Joplin by the Sisters of Mercy. The school was formally opened in the fall of 1886 and was patronized by some of the best families of Joplin, irrespective of religious belief.

The first commencement exercises of the convent occurred in May, 1887, and the following pupils received honorable mention for excellence during the school year: Ida Murphy, Tillie Collins, Tamson Workizer, John Workizer, Maggie Shelhan, Maggie Ryan, Maggie Furgison, Helen Spencer, Annie Furgison, Carrie Crane, Maude Vangrundy, Belle Stafford and Belle Gillis.

The convent has always been a most excellently conducted school and has sent into the world graduates well-grounded in mental attainments and with a special training in good morals and gentle manners which makes them honorable as well as useful members of society.

#### JOPLIN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

In 1880 Dr. J. C. Petit conceived the idea of organizing a medical college for southwestern Missouri and interested in the scheme a number of the best educators and business men of the city, among them S. A. Underwood, county superintendent of schools; Prof. J. T. Martin, later

principal of the West Joplin school; C. H. Montgomery and others. On September 20th a charter for the school was issued by the secretary of state.

J. F. Martin was chosen president of the college and the institution was opened with a faculty which contained a number of men high up in the medical world. The college building was located on the East Joplin hill, at the corner of Broadway and John streets, an old hotel building being fitted up for the purpose. This building was burned in March, 1884.

## CHAPTER XXIV

### JOPLIN, RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL

FIRST M. E. CHURCH—METHODIST CHURCH SOUTH—TEMPERANCE REVIVAL—FIRST SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR—YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—MITE SOCIETIES—AMONG THE LODGES—O. P. MORTON POST, No. 14, G. A. R.—KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN EAGLE—ODD FELLOWS' ANNIVERSARY DAY—SOUTHEAST KANSAS PYTHIAN EXCURSION—GERMANIA SOCIETY—FIRST OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS BALL, 1889—CHAUTAUQUA SOCIETIES—FOUNDERS' DAY—JOPLIN'S SOCIETY—IN HONOR OF EX-MAYOR WILLIAMS' BRIDE—VISIT OF GENERAL SHERMAN.

In our chapter of the 'seventies we treated at length the organization of the churches and their early work. In this and succeeding chapters we will treat the church as a whole, mentioning only the more important happenings of the several congregations and noting, from time to time, the organization of other denominations and the extension of the church work.

#### FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In 1880 a very eloquent man, Rev. Philip Krohn from New York, was sent to the Joplin field and during his pastorate a new church was built at Fourth and Wall streets. The building was for its day a handsome edifice and was furnished with modern church furniture.

#### METHODIST CHURCH SOUTH

In 1882 Rev. Campbell of Neosho came to Joplin and took charge of the Joplin church. During his pastorate the church in East Joplin was sold to the Baptists and a neat frame chapel built on West Fourth street, just across the alley from the North church. This building was, during the early 'nineties sold to the Colored Methodists and a pretty frame church built at the corner of Seventh and Moffet.

The old East Joplin church was sold by the Baptists to the Christian congregation at Diamond Grove and in 1885 torn down and rebuilt in that historic grove, which, during the war and early 'seventies, was the scene of great activity.

#### TEMPERANCE REVIVAL IN 1884

In the fall of 1884 there was inaugurated in Joplin a temperance revival by Messrs. Joseph Critchfield and Chas. J. Holt. The move-

ment gained a strong foothold in Joplin and like the campaign of '77-8 when the Red Ribbon movement swept the county, created great excitement. The renewal of 1884 was under the auspices of the State Christian Temperance Union and had for its emblem the blue ribbon, denoting loyalty. The movement resulted in the organization of the Joplin Temperance Union (non-sectarian). The Woman's Christian Union and the Temperance Cadets, an organization of boys and girls pledged to the cultivation of good manners and good morals.

The officers of the Joplin Temperance Union were as follows: President, A. B. Furgison; vice president, J. E. Sackett; secretary, Jennie Broadley; treasurer, Mrs. J. B. Sergeant.

#### FIRST SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

The Christian Endeavor movement, which was popularized during the later 'eighties and early 'nineties was first organized in Joplin by the Rev. J. Wesley Johnson of the Congregational church. The society, which at first was a Union Endeavor, included the young people of all churches and was fully organized February 26, 1886, with the following officers: President, Rev. J. Wesley Johnson; vice president, Emma Sellars; secretary, C. P. Johnson; treasurer, Grant Jones; organist, Miss Frances Blair, and editors of the Y. P. S. C. E. Advocate, Thomas Dolan and Mamie McClaren.

#### YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

This popular and useful organization, like the Endeavor, had its birth in the old Tabernacle. A preliminary meeting leading to the organization was held at the Tabernacle December 1, 1888, and well attended by the young men of the city. At this meeting a membership committee was appointed and arrangements made for the perpetuation of a young men's organization. The society did not at first maintain a reading room, but later a meeting was called at the residence of A. H. Waite, where some fifty or more men met Geo. T. Coxhead, who explained the system and workings of a Young Men's Christian Association, and here the permanent organization was planned. The real work of the Young Men's Christian Association may be said to date from this meeting.

#### UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC

One of the most delightful Sunday School gatherings occurred August 18, 1885, when the Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist and Congregational Sunday schools joined in a visit to the Sunday schools of Baxter Springs, Kansas. Five extra coaches were put on the regular morning "Memphis" train, making eight in all, and these were loaded to the guards with Sunday school children and workers. The excursionists were royally treated by the Baxter people and the day was spent on the banks of Spring river where, after an exchange of welcomes and



the usual response, a basket lunch was enjoyed. The remainder of the day was spent in boating, swimming and the playing of various games.

#### MITE SOCIETIES

During the entire 'eighties the Christian and Congregational churches had among their auxiliaries a mite society that provided most excellent social entertainment for the members, and also were the means of bringing a considerable sum of money into the church treasuries. The plan of the mite society was as follows: The society met once a week either in the church parlors, or at the residence of some one of the members. At these meetings the church members, with their friends, gathered for a literary and social session. A program, consisting of recitation, debates and vocal and instrumental music from the best local talent, was carried out, after which the plate was passed and each put in his "mite"—so called in commemoration of the "widow's mite." After the program and collection, games and other amusements were indulged in. These mite societies were exceedingly popular, brought the church people closer together and materially strengthened their friendships.

The Christian Mite Society was the first one formed, being organized at the residence of W. B. Lamkin, on November 7, 1879, with the following officers for the winter of 1879-80: Dr. E. A. Wills, president; Mrs. L. Z. Burr, vice president; Emma Shorters, secretary and Mrs. Susie Blakey, treasurer.

The Congregational Mite Society was organized November 12, 1879, in the church parlors, seventy-five people attending the initial meeting.

The following were its first officers: President, J. F. Martin; vice president, Mrs. O. H. Bender; secretary, Olio Harrington; program committee—Clara Craycraft, Anna Young and Janette Houghton; editor literary paper, Col. D. A. Preston.

#### AMONG THE LODGES

The fraternal field was extended in Joplin during the 'eighties by the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Patriotic Order Sons of America, Sons of Veterans, Woman's Relief Corps, Knights of the Golden Eagle, Knights and Ladies of Honor and the American Legion of Honor—the last two insurance societies. The Masonic field was enlarged by the organization of the Royal Arch Chapter and Ascension Commandery No. 39, Knights Templar. Odd Fellowship was strengthened by the mustering of Canton Lincoln No. 16, Patriarchs militant, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen by the organization of a Legion of Select Knights.

We mention here a few of the fraternal happenings of the 'eighties with the view of showing the extent and nature of the operations of the several orders.

## O. P. MORTON POST No. 14, G. A. R.

The Grand Army of the Republic brought together in a closer bond of comradeship the Union veterans of the Civil war. It inaugurated in Joplin the public observance of Memorial day and by its exercises on flag day and other patriotic demonstrations taught a truer love of country.

O. P. Morton Post No. 14, G. A. R., took a prominent part in the planning and carrying to a successful end the celebration of the 4th of July, 1885. It entertained General Sherman, on the occasion of his visit to Joplin, in 1883, and on the day when the great soldier, U. S. Grant, was laid to rest the post conducted in Joplin a special memorial which was participated in by patriotic and military societies of Joplin and by the great majority of the people.

The following were the charter members of O. P. Morton Post No. 14: Post commander, W. H. Fairbanks; senior vice commander, F. M. Redburn; junior vice commander, Jno. C. Barley; adjutant, J. W. Lupton; quartermaster, S. B. Williams; chaplain, C. J. G. Workizer; officer of the day, C. G. Wheeler; officer of the guard, H. C. Combs, B. F. Joslin, F. E. Eberhart, J. H. Minton, W. E. O. Rush, W. S. Leatt, Ira Creech, Peter Bitner, W. B. Adair, A. F. Cloud, F. P. Hyde, W. W. Pate, William Sergeant, W. G. Williams, Edwin Whipple, J. H. Shoat, M. F. Downing, Samuel Lake, F. D. Owen, M. L. Barner, E. W. Beach, G. O. Boucher, J. T. Evert, J. Lurwick, Samuel Ramsey, M. W. Stafford and Ira W. Gilbert.

The following were the Post Commanders during the 'eighties: W. H. Fairbanks, W. W. Pate, Galen Spencer, E. W. Beach, F. M. Redburn, Henry Phelps and J. L. Briggs.

## ASCENSION COMMANDERY No. 39, K. T.

Ascension Commandery made its first trip to a biennial conclave of the Knights Templar in 1886, when it went to St. Louis, seventy strong, to participate in the parade and exercises of that great gathering. John Gillis, then captain general of Ascension Commandery and later grand commander of the state, drilled the organization for the conclave and the white plumed knights made a most excellent appearance as they marched down main street en route to the railway station. A heavy downpour of rain at St. Louis, on the day of the grand parade, greatly marred the exercises and the pleasure of the trip.

## JOPLIN LEGION No. 2, SELECT KNIGHTS, A. O. U. W.

The Joplin Legion of Select Knights, Ancient Order of United Woodmen, won many laurels during the 'eighties on account of their splendid drilling. At the Sarcoxie fair in October, 1886, the Twelfth regiment of Select Knights held its annual encampment and in the drill contests Joplin Legion No. 2 won the first prize. The following were the members of the victorious team: Captain, A. P. Hoyt; Ira Creech, John C.

Faulkender, I. Zamboni, J. L. Davenport, A. L. Fairbrother, H. C. Sutton, S. A. Underwood, John Bauer, Charles Dorrize, H. H. Jennings, H. L. Chickering and I. M. Dennis.

At the meeting of the grand lodge, A. O. U. W., February, 1888, S. A. Underwood of Joplin Lodge No. 34 was elected to the office of grand foreman and two years later Philip Arnold of the same body was similarly honored, the city having been thus twice distinguished in a decade by the five hundred delegates who annually attend these state conventions.

#### KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN EAGLE

The Knights of the Golden Eagle, a fraternal society having for its object the teaching and practicing of friendship and loyalty, was organized in Joplin in February, 1886, with George W. Payton as the executive officer. This society became very popular and numbered in Joplin more than two hundred members. In 1887 representatives of the order from Carthage, Webb City and Joplin (the order in the state was first founded at Carthage) met in Joplin and organized a grand lodge. Geo. W. Payton was the first presiding officer of that body and as the representative of the supreme commander visited New Orleans and introduced the order there.

At the meeting of the grand lodge, April 18, 1888, now having extended to some twenty southwestern Missouri cities, the following grand officers were elected, Jasper county being greatly honored upon the occasion: John Foster, Carthage, grand commander; C. W. Evans, Webb City, vice commander; Herman Ecart, Joplin, representative to the supreme lodge.

#### CANTON LINCOLN No. 16, PATRIARCHS MILITANT, I. O. O. F.

This camp was formally mustered January 20, 1888, with the following officers: Ira Creech, captain; John H. Enrichs, lieutenant; N. J. Street, ensign. Eighteen members were present at the muster-in. G. W. Koehler of Joplin was honored by the lieutenant general commanding by an appointment as major and adjutant general on the general staff.

#### ODD FELLOWS' ANNIVERSARY DAY

On April 26, 1888, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Joplin and vicinity celebrated the sixty-ninth anniversary of the founding of the order.

A parade participated in by three hundred Odd Fellows was a feature of the day. The Carthage Light Guard band, the Joplin Military band and the Galena Fireman's band enlivened the line of march, on which occasion Canton Lincoln made its first public appearance and by its splendid manœuvres won the applause of the spectators. Hon. J. W. Halliburton of Carthage and Hon. J. W. McAntire of Joplin were the orators of the occasion. The celebration was concluded by a ball at

Harvin Opera House at night and went down in the history of Odd Fellowship as a gala day in Joplin.

#### THE SOUTHEAST KANSAS PYTHIAN EXCURSION

During the summer of 1887 the Knights of Pythias of Parsons, Kansas, conceived the idea of an excursion to Joplin, having in mind the strengthening of the bond of friendship between the members of the order of southwest Missouri and southeast Kansas. The Ancient Order of the United Workmen lodge of that city was invited to join in the outing and when the joint committee of the two lodges met to discuss arrangements it was reported that other lodges in southeastern Kansas would like to go; and so it was determined to make the excursion a southeastern Kansas affair and extend an invitation to all of the lodges of Knights of Pythias and Ancient Order of United Workmen in the six southeastern counties of that state.

August 15, 1887, was the day chosen and it was a red-letter day for Joplin, for the City of Lead was fairly alive with brave men who wore the red, yellow and blue and with the members of the then great fraternal insurance society.

The Joplin lodge of Knights of Pythias and Ancient Order of United Workmen had invited the members of the two fraternities of Jasper county to help entertain and make Jasper county the hosts of the day. The Kansas special of ten coaches was literally jammed with men, women and children. They brought with them two fine brass bands, which with the Joplin band furnished plenty of music during the day. In uniform from Kansas were the Select Knights, A. O. U. W., of Parsons, numbering thirty men; the Erie Division Knights of Pythias, twenty men; and the Parsons Division Knights of Pythias, thirty men. These with the different uniformed orders of Joplin formed a handsome procession. Mr. Frank Williams delivered an address of welcome at Fairbanks hall after which everybody "struck out" for dinner. The afternoon was spent as the visitors saw fit. At two o'clock the Erie Division K. of P. gave a drill on the street in front of the Joplin hotel, which was one of the finest drills ever put up by a civic order in the southwest. It was the admiration of every one. After this the ball game between Webb City and Joplin was the center of attraction. At six o'clock Main street was again a lively scene. The bicycle contest and tournament, in which some twenty expert wheelmen of Joplin and Galena, among whom was the famous Tom Hardwick, gave exhibitions of fancy riding and hill climbing. The Henderson and Lewis hose companies made three runs of a hundred yards each and gave very good exhibitions of their skill. Then the Joplin Zouaves gave one of their splendid drills, which was a most pleasing close to the day's sports. The captain of the company was out of town and the boys had not intended drilling, but Lieutenant Lowderback got eight men together and put up a drill that captivated the vast crowd. About three o'clock something like one hundred and fifty ladies and gentlemen had assembled in the lodge room of the two orders,



and were having a delightful time in conversation and music, when the assemblage was called to order and Mr. John Gillies, on behalf of the Select Knights of Joplin, presented to the Sigel Legion No. 36 of Parsons, a most elegantly arranged and designed cross, emblematic of the order, made entirely of specimens of Joplin lead and zinc ore.

#### JOPLIN RETURNS THE FRATERNAL VISIT

The fraternal visit of the Kansas Ancient Order of United Workmen and Knights of Pythias was returned by Joplin August 23, 1888, when 575 Joplinites reinforced by some 200 citizens of Galena visited Parsons, Kansas. The excursion was under the auspices of the Ancient Order of United Workmen lodge of Joplin and was managed by the following committee: S. A. Underwood, O. B. Hamlin and H. C. Sutton. A round-trip fare of one dollar to Parsons and return was secured and a special train of nine coaches left Joplin at 7:30 A. M., returning at midnight.

The following organizations with their wives, daughters and sweet-hearts, participated in the day's pleasures: The A. O. U. W. lodges of Joplin; Joplin Legion Select Knights; Canton Lincoln, I. O. O. F.; Patriotic Order Sons of America; Knights of the Golden Eagle; Joplin Zouaves; the Joplin Fire department and the Joplin Military Band, together with the A. O. U. W. lodge of Galena and the celebrated Galena Boom Brigade, a most excellently drilled organization of Galena belles under the command of the prince of drill masters, Col. L. C. Weldy.

At Parsons the guests were welcomed by the Rev. Elerby, in behalf of the citizens and lodge men of that city, and after dinner exhibition drills were given by the Select Knights, Canton Lincoln, and the Zouaves, the last one of which brought from the Kansans round after round of applause.

A contest between the hose companies of Joplin and Parsons resulted in a victory for Joplin—the time of the two companies on a 200-yard run, laying 100 feet of hose and throwing water, being: Joplin 1:30, Parsons 2:02.

#### GERMANIA SOCIETY

The Joplin Germania Society has since its organization given an annual ball to which the friends who are not members of the organization are invited.

The annual ball of 1887 was given on Valentine's day and the guests and dancers appeared in fancy dress and masks. Two hundred and fifty dancers were on the floor for the grand march and the immense throng thoroughly enjoyed the evening, the famous Carthage Light Guard band furnishing the music.

#### FIRST OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

Labor day was first observed in Joplin Monday, September 6, 1886, under the auspices of the Knights of Labor which, in the middle 'eighties was a strong organization in Joplin and Jasper county.

At 10 o'clock in the morning a parade was had and participated in by the following organizations: J. C. Pettit, grand marshal, and staff; Joplin Military Band; fire department; drum corps; Knights of Labor; carriages with orator of the day; reception committee and city officials.

The exercises were held at Castle Rock, and after dinner G. P. Garland, chairman of the day, introduced the orator of the occasion, Hon. Jesse Harper, of Danville, Illinois.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS BALL, 1889

We clip the following from the *Herald* of February 26, 1889, as it will give an idea of the character and popularity of the annual Knights of Pythias ball, which occurred on the natal day of the order, February 19: "The annual ball of the Knights of Pythias, an event that is always a central point of interest in society circles for weeks, came off last night at the Havin Opera House. The present ball, like its predecessors, was a realization of all that was anticipated by the most sanguine notaries of social pleasure. The attendance was large and comprised the *creme de la creme* of Joplin society, with a generous representation from neighboring towns.

"The hall was elaborately and tastily decorated with the emblems of the order. Eighty couples participated in the dance. Among the ladies who graced the ball the *Herald* reporter noted the following: The Misses May Hunt, Helen Rauschenbach, Florence Filmore, Corinne Allington, Mattie Campbell, Stella Thurman, Kate Roberts and Ella Lamb, of Carthage; Ida Babst and Dottie Williams, of Neosho; Libbie Palmer and Amy Warren, of Baxter Springs; Laura Cooper, also of Baxter Springs; Frank Broadley, Cora Flenniken and Mina Roberts, of Neosho; Addie Ellison and Kate Conard, of Carthage; Martha Roberson and Mamie Roberson, of Des Moines, Iowa; Delia Sapp and Jennie Lauderbach; also the Mesdames J. A. Cragin, G. B. Young, Eva Richardson, J. W. Calvin, J. F. Wise, C. W. Witman, L. C. Hamilton, E. D. Porter, F. E. Williams, Elmer Webster, L. C. McCarty, V. L. Petraeus (of Philadelphia, Pa.), H. Weymann, A. Weymann, L. C. Clark, J. G. Huher, E. P. Swift, Laura Reifsueder, D. A. Preston, H. P. Campbell, Dr. Snyder, Will Moore, A. G. Cook (of Oswego, N. Y.), W. S. Paul, Simon Schwartz, Clarence Lambert, J. B. Sherman, H. D. Chickering, H. H. Gregg, Wm. Heinrichs, Lewis James, Harry Crittenden (of Fredonia, Kansas), Levi Stauffer, Dila Mitch, D. K. Wenrich, S. C. Hendersen.

#### THE CHAUTAUQUA SOCIETIES

The Chautauqua movement, which has of late years become so popular and which annually brought together thousands of the literary and music-loving people in the 'eighties, had its beginning at Chautauqua lake, New York, and thence spread out over the county, first by the organization of many literary clubs formed for home culture.

Joplin had two such circles and the meetings of these clubs formed a great factor in literary and social circles.

The unity Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle included some twenty members.

The regular Chautauqua Course of Home Reading was carried out and the essays and discussions which covered a wide range, kept its members in touch with the great thinkers of the day.

This society was the first woman's club in Joplin, and, after completing the regular four years' and post-graduate Chautauqua courses, maintained its organization and, until the later 'nineties, held most delightful and profitable sessions. The Unity Circle changed its name later to the Unity Club and still holds most delightful and helpful literary sessions.

The Prospectors' Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle organized in 1887 among the younger set, was a mixed club and had for its leader W. P. Roberts, then principal of the high school, and later R. D. Shanmon, superintendent of schools.

#### FOUNDERS' DAY

On February 22, 1888, the Unity and Prospectors' circles joined in a celebration commemorating the names and deeds of the great characters who figured prominently in the founding and building of the nation. The celebration was called Founders' day.

In carrying out the program, the different members impersonated the nation's heroes in costumes, telling the stories of their lives and exploits.

The following program was carried out.

Medley of National Airs: Chorus.

Roll Call.

Quotations about America.

Address by the president of the Unity Club, Mrs. L. C. McCarty, on "The Mound Builders and the Indian Tribes."

Minnehaha, represented by Emma V. Shortess: In this representation Mrs. Shortess recited an original poem which described beautifully the history of the Indian tribes. This recitation was greatly enjoyed.

Solo: "The Death of Minnehaha," by Mrs. J. A. Fox.

Story of His Explorations: Lelf Ericson, represented by Jas. B. Hogan.

Narrative of His Great Discovery: Columbus represented by Joel T. Livingston.

Landing of the Pilgrims: Priscilla, the Puritan Maiden, by Mrs. A. R. Snyder.

Instrumental Solo: "Battle Cry of Freedom," by Mrs. W. S. Paul.

Story of Her Life: Mrs. Ann Hutchinson, represented by Mrs. L. P. Cunningham.

History of the Quakers: William Penn, represented by Julius A. Becker.

New York Under the Dutch Governors: Mrs. Van Winkle, represented by Mrs. L. Rothschild.

Vocal Duet: "Hear Me, Norma," by Mrs. J. A. Fox and Mrs. A. R. Snyder.

Capt. John Smith: Pocohontas, represented by Mamie Glover.

"Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death," Patrick Henry, represented by W. P. Roberts.

Home Life of Washington: Martha Washington, represented by Mrs. Clark Craycroft.

"America."

The following Chautauquans participated in this enjoyable literary symposium:

Unity Circle—President, Mrs. L. C. McCarty; vice president, Mrs. Clark Craycroft; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. A. R. Snyder; mesdames, Phil Arnold, L. P. Cunningham, E. T. Doty, J. A. Fox, F. Henshaw, C. J. Lewis, W. P. Owen, W. S. Paul, W. H. Picher, William Robinson, L. Rothschild, J. B. Sergeant, Henry Weyman, C. J. G. Workizer, M. W. Eiler and J. L. Briggs.

Prospectors' Circle—President, W. P. Roberts; vice president, Mollie Robertson; secretary and treasurer, Emma V. Shorters; Misses Johana Becker, Lillian Blair, Gertrude Broadley, Mamie Glover, Caddie Goodwin, Dora Laudauer, Hanna Laudauer, Maude Lopp and Katie Roberts, and Messrs. Julius A. Becker, Millard Conley, Ray Evans, James B. Hogan, Will C. Porter, John Price, T. C. White and Joel T. Livingston.

During the 'nineties club work in Joplin became very popular, some half dozen literary societies flourishing through the decade which will be further mentioned in the pages covering that period.

#### JOPLIN'S SOCIETY

We mention a few of the social occurrences of the 'eighties for the purpose of giving an idea of the class of people who made up Joplin's social life and the extent and character of the city's amusements.

#### IN HONOR OF EX-MAYOR WILLIAMS' BRIDE

One of the most delightful social sessions of the 'eighties and one which included practically all of Joplin's 400 was a reception given in honor of ex-Mayor Williams' bride. We republish here the *Jasper County Democrat's* report of the affair: "Three weddings have occurred in the past two weeks and it is believed this is only the beginning. Since the old veteran, Capt. Frank E. Williams, has yielded his heart we are ready to believe it of anyone, and would not be surprised if in six months hence such a thing as a single man in the town would be looked upon as a phenomenon.

"From the chronic bachelor habits of Captain Williams we had come to look upon him as proof against all such attacks of the heart. For several years past he has made regular pilgrimages to Chicago and on each occasion did Dame Rumor as regularly announce that he would return with a wife, and each time he returned as he went, much to the discomfiture of the old busybody. So when it was rumored this time that he would return a married man the knowing ones just laughed and said 'fooled again.' But when the announcement of the arrival of Captain Williams and bride was made and invitations issued for a reception at the residence of Peter E. Blow to the happy pair on the evening of Friday last there was no longer doubting.



"Captain Williams is one of the oldest citizens and a universal favorite in the community. During his citizenship he has been invested with some of the most important city offices, having served as mayor two consecutive terms, city collector, etc.

"The reception given at the residence of Mr. Blow, in honor of Captain Williams and bride, eclipsed anything ever seen in Joplin. The spacious grounds adjoining the residence were brilliantly illuminated with Chinese lanterns. The bride and groom received the guests on the veranda, not under the mistletoe bough but that of the apple tree. The bride was tastefully attired in white with corsage bouquet of natural flowers. She is of the brunette type of beauty, with large and expressive eyes and a face denoting intellect and character. She was a Miss McMurray, of Chicago, at whose home in that city the marriage took place.

"After the arrival of the guests, who numbered more than three hundred, came in full dress the Joplin Rifles, of which organization the groom was captain, accompanied by the band which discoursed some sweet music during the evening. In behalf of the Rifles Lieutenant Reavis presented a few congratulatory remarks to the groom to which he responded in a happy and graceful manner after which refreshments were served. As entertainers Mr. Blow and his pretty wife, who is a niece of Captain Williams, proved themselves simply adepts.

"Among the guests noticeable was our popular deputy sheriff with his decidedly pretty bride of a week. He looked the personification of happiness and 'twas difficult to imagine, as one looked at that placid and ecstatic countenance, the rising of a ripple to mar the voyage upon which he has just set out. His bride, nee Miss Ida Miller, who was more fortunate than the others in not being obliged to change her name, was formally a teacher in the public schools. James Crabtree, a clerk in one of the leading dry goods houses, was present with his bride of a few days, formerly Miss Libbie Jarrett; also a teacher of the public schools. A H. Waite and his bride of a few months offered their congratulations to the newly married couple with the wish that they might be just one-half as happy as they. J. B. Sergeant, who was present with his most estimable wife, remarked 'this carries me back just thirty-five years, a long time for a bride and groom to look forward to, but as I now look back upon it, it seems but a day.'

"The old bachelor friends of the groom were out in full force but seemed not at home, reminding one of a lot of cats in a strange garret. They seem to be querying 'How is this?' 'What am I?' 'Who am I?' 'What am I here for?'

"T. Jones, of the Joplin Hotel, materialized with a pretty girl on his arm. Dr. Howard and James Leonard and other old chums of the groom walked up and congratulated the newly made benedict and his pretty bride and slunk back in a kind of reverie which seemed to imply that they had all at once commenced analyzing themselves. Some one asked 'Where is A. W. Carson, editor and prospective postmaster?' The

answer came 'He has closeted himself for the night with Gulliver's Meditation and does not desire either to see or be seen.' There is evidently a change passing over the spirit of the dream of the old set, and single blessedness is not being lauded as it used to be."

#### THE VISIT OF GENERAL SHERMAN

On June 13, 1884, General W. T. Sherman honored Joplin, Webb City, Carterville and Carthage with a visit and his coming to Jasper was the occasion of a demonstration in his honor in each of the four cities. On the arrival of the train bearing the distinguished guest at Joplin, Webb City and Carterville, all of the whistles in the mining district were turned loose at once and the noise was heard for ten miles around. General Sherman's daughter accompanied her father. In Joplin the Grand Army of the Republic post, the Joplin Rifles and other semi-military societies escorted General Sherman from the depot to the hotel. C. J. Lewis, A. B. McCarty and F. M. Redburn were delegated by the city to entertain the great soldier while in the city, and he and his daughter were shown through the mines, the lead works and other points of interest.

## CHAPTER XXV

### MILITARY AND SPECTACULAR

THE JOPLIN RIFLES—JOPLIN ZOUAVES—MARDI GRAS IN JOPLIN—JOPLIN EXPOSITION—FOURTH OF JULY, 1885—THE PROCESSION—SHAM BATTLE—A STORY OF SPANISH ADVENTURE.

During the summer of 1881 the matter of organizing a military company for Joplin was talked of by the patriotic citizens and both the *News* and *Herald* spoke editorially of the good of such an organization to a community. Accordingly, in response to a call issued by Col. W. W. Fairbanks, Capt. W. W. Pate, and Clark Craycroft, a meeting was held August 5th and the preliminaries taken for the organization of a company of the State Guard.

#### THE JOPLIN RIFLES

The company was christened the Joplin Rifles and the following officers were chosen: Captain, W. W. Pate, late of the U. S. Volunteers; first lieutenant, Clark Craycroft; second lieutenant, A. P. Hoyt, and first sergeant, M. W. Stafford. Thirty-seven members, composed of the best business and society men of the city, signed the muster roll at this meeting, and at the formal muster on September 1, the membership had been swelled to almost fifty.

The uniforms purchased were the regulation dress uniform of the United States army, the swallow-tail dress coat (cap and gloves) trimmed in buff and gold, and were very attractive.

The company became very proficient and during its existence won many laurels. On July 4, 1882, the company was presented with a beautiful silk flag by the ladies of Joplin, Miss Jenette Haughton, later Mrs. L. P. Cunningham, making the presentation speech.

On the organization of Grand Army of the Republic in August, 1882, Captain Pate retired from the Rifles to become the post commander of the O. P. Morton Post. Lieutenant Craycroft was elected captain and Galen Spencer first lieutenant.

In October, 1882, the Rifles formed from among its members a dramatic company and, with the assistance of Miss Ida Miller, Miss Mildred Livingston and Miss Lillie Wine, presented the "Union Spy" to a large and enthusiastic audience. So well was the play received that it was twice repeated in Joplin and played also at Lamar and Webb City. The

*Joplin Evening News*, in commenting on the performance says: "This great military drama was presented by the Joplin Rifles last night to a good audience, and we doubt not that nearly everybody was surprised at the excellent manner in which all those who took part in it acquitted themselves. Amateur theatricals sometimes drag along in a tedious, listless manner, with loud promptings, awkward mistakes and long waits between acts, which not only prove exceedingly tiresome to the audience but greatly mar the effects of the play; but barring one or two trifling errors, last night's entertainment proved a notable exception. The drama is founded upon the late war and is replete with startling situations, scenes of soldier life, snatches of song, fun, pathos and beautiful and suggestive tableaux, and holds the interest of the audience from the first raising of the curtain to the close. Considering the short time that the play has been in rehearsal it was certainly admirably produced, every character being well sustained throughout. Where all did so well it is difficult to particularize, but we can not refrain from the remark that F. E. Williams rather distinguished himself as 'Harry Allen, the spy,' in which character he could not be excelled. Harry Crittenden as 'Edmund Randolph,' G. West Byron as 'John Allen,' Oren Kimmis as 'Payton Randolph,' and Joel Livingston as 'George Wilson,' displayed dramatic talent of no mean order, while Frank Franklin as 'Sam, a culled pussen,' has a splendid conception of that role and did himself proud. Joe Doniphan as 'Pussey Van Dunderspeck' and A. O. T. Pennington as 'Yacup,' brought down the house. They were good. The character of 'Jimmy, the drummer-boy,' was commendably brought out by Bertie Schnur, as was that of 'Frank Allen' by H. Cline. Misses Lillie Wine, Mildred Livingston and Ida Miller also did themselves great credit in their respective characters, while the young ladies who supplied the excellent tableaux must not be forgotten. Taken all in all, the *Union Spy* may be set down as one of the best dramatic entertainments ever presented here by a home company. For this success great credit is due Harry Crittenden, of Paola, Kansas, who acted as instructor and general manager. He was ably seconded by many members of the Rifles, who were very earnest in their efforts to make their first entertainment both an artistic and financial success.

The play is to be reproduced tonight and we can assure our people that they will be highly pleased. The '*Union Spy*' is a far more interesting and attractive drama than most of those presented by traveling companies."

December 1883, Captain Craycroft became major of the Fifth Regiment, M. N. G.; Lieutenant Galen Spencer was promoted to the captaincy and private F. E. Williams, who had won so much praise for the company on account of his superb acting at the time of the presentation of the '*Union Spy*,' was chosen first lieutenant. Shortly after, on account of business engagements interfering, Lieutenant Hoyt resigned and Sergeant Julius Miller became second lieutenant. In September, 1884, Captain Galen Spencer, then in the midst of a political



campaign and the Republican candidate for presidential elector from this district, tendered his resignation, and Lieutenant Miller, who had accepted an appointment as deputy sheriff also withdrew and the company was reorganized as follows: Captain, F. E. Williams; first lieutenant, Harmon C. Cline; second lieutenant, C. B. Revis; first sergeant, Frank Franklin.

This was a strong official line-up. Captain Williams had twice been mayor and was one of the most popular men in the city. At the monthly competitive drills of the company Lieutenants Cline and Revis and Sergeant Franklin had each, more than once, carried off the gold medal for proficiency in drill and the company, which had now been materially reduced in strength on account of removals and business changes, was recruited up to the maximum.

In 1885, on account of the unfriendly action of the state legislature in refusing to make an appropriation for the support of the State Guard, the Rifles voted to disband, but after the earnest request of the city to maintain the organization the company was again reorganized with F. E. Williams as captain, J. L. Biggs, first lieutenant and O. B. Hamlin second lieutenant. The reorganized company held together until after the meeting of the legislature in 1889, when it formally disbanded. During its eight years of existence its membership comprised the very best citizens of the town. It participated in every public celebration in the city and also attended the regimental camps of the Fifth regiment at Carthage and Pierce City, and the state encampment at Sweet Springs, all at its own expense.

#### JOPLIN ZOUAVES

In the fall of 1886 Lieutenant Revis, of the Joplin Rifles, organized among the members of the company and for exhibition purposes, a Zouave squad and, after the regular drills of the company, put the boys through the attractive manœuvres of that once popular drill. The squad purchased the regulation Turkish uniform and made a very attractive appearance. They made their debut at Carthage, November 24, 1886, on the occasion of the Carthage Light Guards' Thanksgiving ball and the spectators were loud in their applause.

The following were the original members of the Zouave squad: Lieutenant C. B. Revis, Harry Lauderbach, W. W. Pate, A. C. Barn, E. C. Summerfield, Bert Taylor, W. L. Lauderbach, W. T. Conway and Ben. Landauer.

After the Joplin Rifles disbanded, the Zouave squad was increased and formed into a company organization with the following officers: J. B. Glover, captain; A. C. Barr, lieutenant; H. O. Lauderbach, first sergeant. The following new members were received into the company: Luther McGehee, J. W. Henrichs, A. E. Spencer and T. B. Jenkins.

The company maintained its organization until after Company G., of the Second Infantry, was mustered, and during those years attracted much attention on account of the excellence of their drilling. The com-

pany visited Parsons, Kansas, Carthage, Webb City, Neosho and other places, and always won the wildest applause for its splendid appearance. On the occasion of the Johnstown, Pennsylvania, flood, the organization gave a benefit ball and cleared \$1,500, which was sent to Governor Francis to be transmitted to the sufferers, along with other Missouri contributions.

Joplin had, during the middle 'eighties, a most excellent band, the Joplin Silver Cornet Band. Charles Dumars, later the leader of the Carthage Light Guard Band, was the musical director. The open air concerts by this band were features of Joplin's down-town amusements and were largely attended.

At the Parsons fair, in 1884, this band won the second honor in the band contest, a \$150 prize, on a score of 139 points out of a possible 150. The winning band was but one point their better.

#### MARDI GRAS IN JOPLIN

During the early 'eighties it was customary to celebrate Mardi Gras day in Joplin. The celebration was called the "Carnival of Rex Plumbum: Lead is King."

The most successful of these celebrations occurred in March, 1881, when all Joplin masked and took part in the day's festivities. Two parades were had, one in the afternoon and one at night. Mose Weiler was marshal of the day. Fully five thousand out-of-town visitors witnessed the two parades.

The *Herald* gives the following graphic report of the day.

Tuesday morning beamed out with an almost unclouded sky and a balmy southern breeze that savored of the coy advance of spring. Had a special committee been empowered to dictate to the weather clerk the article of weather desired by His Majesty, Rex Plumbum, a more satisfactory brand could not possibly have been furnished. The long blockade of snow, storm, slush and mud had kept humanity pent up indoors until a sigh went up for relief and a reasonable pretext for a rollicking day in the open air. The beautiful balmy morning was all that could be desired, and the carnival of Rex Plumbum furnished the pretext ample for the masses to rush forth and mingle with the revelry of His Majesty and his loyal subjects.

The number of visitors who arrived by the evening trains of Monday was sufficient to tax the facilities of our numerous hotels for furnishing quarters. But it remains for the morning trains to prove that this region is populated. Long before noon the sidewalks on either side of Main street, from Broadway to Fourth, were lined with a mass of spectators anxiously awaiting the arrival of His Majesty and loyal clan and the formal inauguration of the carnival. The occasional appearance of some of the mystic crew arrayed in such extravagant costumes as a romantic imagination could dictate, was a signal for a shout. The appearance of these phantoms grew more frequent, each rivaling its predecessor in hideousness, until it seemed as though a mysterious medley of Indians, Arabs, Chinamen, goblins and devils incarnate had taken possession of the city.

At 2:30 o'clock the bells rang out in startling notes the announcement that the Royal cavalcade approached and all was expectation. The Royal chariot, preceded by His Majesty's cornet band and followed by his courtiers and re-

tainers, advanced from the south. At the gates the mayor and faithful warder awaited the Royal visitors. The approach of the Royal cavalcade was signaled by three blasts from the trumpet of His Majesty's courtier, who advanced mounted, which was immediately responded to by three blasts from the trumpet of the warder of the gate.

The following is the salutation of the visitors:

Warder to Mayor: "Most inscrutable Don Pedro Paxales, mayor of the City of Lead. There is an alarm at the gates of the city."

Mayor: "Right excellent Whangdoodle, find out what the galoots want."

[Warder's trumpet. Three blasts.]

[Courier's trumpet. Three blasts.]

The warder then inquires of the courier what is wanted.

Courier to Warder: "His Royal Majesty, Rex Plumbum, approaches the gates of the City of Lead with His Majesty's hosts of galoots and demands the freedom of your city, and that the freedom thereof be formally delivered to him."

Warder to Mayor: "The reason for this is that His Royal Majesty, Rex Plumbum, approaches the gates of the City of Lead with his mighty hosts of galoots and demands the freedom of your city and that the keys thereof be formally delivered to him."

Mayor to Warder: "Most excruciating Whangdoodle, announce to Sir Guyasticutus that I, Don Pedro Paxales, most inscrutable Mayor of the City of Lead, most bluffiously invites His Most Arrant Majesty, Rex Plumbum, to approach the gates and listen to the sweet voice of the child."

Warder to Courier: "Sir Guyasticutus, Chief of His Majesty's galoots, the Most Honorable, the Most Inscrutable Don Pedro Paxales, Mayor of the City of Lead, most bluffiously, most hilariously and most punctiliously commands me, his most lugubrious subject, to invite His Most Arrant Majesty, Rex Plumbum, to approach the gates of the city and listen to the sweet voice of the little child."

Rex approaches and the Mayor delivers the following address

"Rex Plumbum, by the Grace of the Great Mogul, King of the Carnival: The undersigned, Mayor of the City of Lead, on the borders of Joplin, having heard with unspeakable gratitude of this Royal visit of His Majesty, the Great Guyasticutus of the rollicking raiders of this whole vast country, to the confines of our dens and dugouts, I have caused the Great Tin Horn to be sounded, and have commanded every individual who claims to hold authority against Your Majesty's wild dominion, to skedaddle to his hole. I have commanded the gates of the city to be thrown open for the reception of His Majesty, His Royal Retinue, all His Majesty's faithful scabs and serfs to whom now I surrender the City of Lead: and I welcome, in behalf of every stoughton bottle within the limits, His Majesty as the Most High Pakie; and to His Majesty's Chief of Galoots I now turn over the keys of the City and surrender my goose quill. And may the hair on the head of His Majesty forever wave."

Royal Proclamation after receiving the keys: "As the adoration of my loyal subjects like sweetest incense arises before me, I, Rex Plumbum, am moved to speak and do, by my High Old Boy, publish this my Royal Proclamation. When I, 'midst sulphurous gases grew, and in nature's realm claimed my own, it was that such as you, loyal subjects good and true, might join in making the conquest complete. Nobly have you served me. It is well. Fill full the flowing bowl, ye jovial band, and 'damned be he who first cries, Hold enough!' The keys of the city have been delivered to me by my worthy servant the mayor. Long may he live to quaff the glass of foaming beer, nectar of the Gods. Let strong guards be placed at the outer gates, while ye my subjects, serfs and scabs, high carnival hold. Ye my braves the keys, the freedom of the city take, and with reast and joy and dance the hours beguile.



"I, Rex, have spoken. Let the wise rejoice and in grand procession forward move. Let the fool hunt his hole and the scoffer pull his hole in after him for I, the King, have spoken.

"Done at court in the City of Lead, this first day of the third month of the six thousand, nine hundred and twenty-first year of the reign of Rex Plumbum."

The line of parade was then taken up and moved on through the principal streets. At night there was another parade, illuminated by Chinese lanterns, there being no electric lights in the city at that time. After the last parade there was dancing at two of the largest halls in the town, which were the Opera House and Berz Hall.

The last celebration of Mardi Gras occurred March 5, 1889, and was noted for the gorgeousness of the parade, quite a number of unique features being in the spectacular pageantry. The parade was fully two miles long.

We republish here the newspaper account of the day, which is interesting as it shows a contrast in the plan of the celebration for the early and later part of the decade: "The weather clerk smiled propitiously on Rex Plumbum's Mardi Gras carnival. After days of gloom that gave grave cause for anxiety, came a morning as bright and clear and crisp as early spring even in this favored latitude ever produced. Coming after such a protracted period of clouds and gloom it was doubly appreciable. After the long suspense a sigh of satisfaction deep and expressive went up from the Mardi Gras managers as they realized that their work of preparation was not in vain.

"As the hour for the procession approached, the sidewalks flanking Main street were lined by eager spectators. Awnings, balconies and front windows commanding a view of the street were in special request.

"The street had on its holiday garb and many buildings were profusely decorated with the national colors that gave the scene a gala appearance. The occasional appearance of some of the mystic crew arrayed in such extravagant vesture as a romantic imagination might dictate gave the spectators diversion to while away the time of waiting. Troops of children in fantastic costumes flew around like goblins.

"The appearance of the royal cavalcade was announced by a chorus of steam whistles that made the welkin ring. All was expectation as the procession passed along Main street from the south.

"At Fourth and Main the typical gates of the city had been erected. The canopy was surmounted by hundreds of gas jets for the illumination. The columns were festooned with evergreens and from either side was extended a banner with 'Welcome' in large characters. Here the mayor awaited the approach of His Majesty and his royal train. After a formal address by the mayor, the triumphal march proceeded through the arch in the following manner. A trumpeter in grotesque costume mounted on a donkey and heralding the approach of Rex Plumbum in an artistic manner.

"The Kazoo band of eight boys with curious looking instruments.

"The Galena band of nine pieces discoursing excellent music.

"Rex Plumbum in his chariot, the canopy of which towered to an



altitude of 17 feet. His Majesty was represented as sitting in a gondola upon the blue sea, two white swans furnishing the propelling power with a garniture of evergreens in festoons on each side. Four horses led by four grooms.

“Twenty cavaliers on horseback, who composed the king’s body-guard.

“Fifteen Select Knights with drawn swords, green being the uniform.

“Fifteen Red Knights, clad in red with Capt. Fred Sellars in command.

“Fifteen Sons of P. O. S. of America in yellow costume.

“Fifteen Blue Knights of the Golden Eagle order.

“The ‘Man in the Moon,’ drawn by four horses, with four grooms leading the steeds. The float was a very handsome one, standing fourteen feet high with excellent representations of a spotted leopard on either side of a fiery flying dragon, preceding the chief figure.

“The float called ‘Fairie Queen’ was remarkably pretty, the center figure being the handsomest lady in the United States, or the world perhaps, whose dignified mien and silver locks gave irresistible charm to her tall commanding appearance, as she stood in her two-wheeled chariot directing the attendants who followed her liege lord, the king. She was attended by five gentlemen of honor in rich costumes and the party enlivened by two huge frogs with golden harps upon which they played. The whole was drawn by four richly caparisoned horses led by four grooms and guided by a coachman with powdered wig, yellow satin knee breeches, blue silk velvet coat, silk stockings and low shoes with silver buckles.

“The ‘Good Luck’ float, standing sixteen and a half feet high, containing a mammoth horse shoe in the center of which ‘Methuselah,’ aged nine hundred and sixty-nine years, sat swinging himself. Two horses, two grooms and three attendants, completed the equipage.

“The ‘Deer Hunt’ had a fine deer with antlers, pursued by two spotted stag hounds, and a sportsman with a rifle at his shoulder. Four horses with grooms leading them completed the picture.

“The ‘Shoal Creek Fishing Party’ were drawn by four horses, led by grooms and comprised a boat with eight fishermen with rods and lines, who landed fish, turtles and frogs at intervals, and was entitled ‘A Fisherman’s Luck.’ The whole design was ingenious and well executed.

“A cavalcade of men on horseback.

“The fire department noted far and wide for its efficiency and the devotion of its companies marched in six subdivisions with every one of them having a full complement of men, dressed in their attractive uniforms. Four men on horseback led the brigade. Next the hook and ladder cart, then hose cart and Company No. 1 followed by hose cart and Company No. 2 and hose cart and Company No. 4, a running cart and company bringing up the rear.

“Then came the bicycle brigade, twelve young men riding on single ones and two others on a double one made so for the occasion, connecting

two 'Star' bicycles together. All were ornamented and were a fitting close of the procession.

"Among the fifty advertising floats those most worthy of mention were the Joplin White Lead Works and Charles Geltz, the ice man. The latter brought out his old one-horse spring wagon with three wheels and a scraggy mule tied on behind. A stove-pipe protruded through a very delapidated wagon cover, old pants, broom and bucket hoops. The inscriptions were 'I'm all the way from Arkansas and am very, very dry.' 'Give me a glass of water, so said the Arkansawyer.' 'My bone's dry, and so am I, and so is Arkansas.' 'Arkansas went dry and so did I.'

"The Joplin White Lead Works' float required six horses, a driver and four grooms to conduct it safely through the streets. A regular old Scotch-eye furnace and ore smelted in transit, five workmen handling the spud and poker, and wheelbarrow, etc., were present, just as they may be seen any time at the works which are the only ones of the kind in the United States."

#### JOPLIN EXPOSITION 1881

The fair of the Joplin Exposition Company from September 28 to October 1, 1881, was largely attended and one of the most successful ever given in Joplin. Among the attractions was a chariot race which created great excitement, and a military tournament participated in by the Paola Rifles of Paola, Kansas, then the crack organization of the Sunflower state, and the Carthage Light Guards.

The visit of the Paola Rifles at this time was a drawing card for the exposition, for the reason that at this time it was in the lime-light, on account of an altercation between the company and John P. St. John, then governor of Kansas.

On the occasion of General Grant's visit to Kansas City, many of the state companies of militia attended to participate in the grand military parade given in honor of the great soldier. The Paola Rifles were there as the guests of the Craig Rifles, of Kansas City. Governor St. John became angered at a supposed slight from Mayor Van Horn and ordered the Kansas militia to take no part in the parade. The Paola company felt that as they were there as the guests of the Craig Rifles they should march with them, participated in the parade and were personally complimented by General Grant for their proficiency.

At the Kansas State Fair, at Bismark, the Paola company entered in the drill contest and, as they were entering the grounds, the adjutant general, acting on orders from Governor St. John, took their arms from them. The company came to Joplin carrying arms loaned them by another company, and on account of this advertisement, attracted much attention.

The Joplin exposition gave annual exhibits until 1884, at which date the project was abandoned on account of financial difficulties.

## FOURTH OF JULY, 1885

Joplin observed July 4, 1885, with a monster celebration, and probably brought together more people in the city than any other gathering of the 'eighties. In the morning a procession marched through Main street and Broadway. The speaking occurred at Castle Rock at the close of day and a sham battle was fought, the night being given over to fire works, a band concert, etc. We give herewith a description of the day's celebration.

## THE PROCESSION

The procession was formed in the following order:

Joplin Silver Cornet Band.

Joplin Rifles.

Girard Cornet Band.

Girard Guard.

National Temperance Guards.

Galena Martial Band.

Galena Post, G. A. R.

Carthage Martial Band.

Carthage Post, G. A. R.

Joplin Post, G. A. R.

Carterville Cornet Band.

Select Knights, A. O. U. W.

Joplin lodges, A. O. U. W.

Knights and Ladies of Honor.

Joplin Hose Company No. 1.

Detachment Continental Kids.

The whole formed a brilliant pageant as they filed out Main street. The sidewalks on either side were lined with thousands of eager spectators. When the procession reached East Joplin the order was broken and each organization took transportation to Castle Rock Park.

## AT THE GROUNDS

The grounds allotted to the celebration were found inadequate to accommodate the immense crowd and the hundreds of vehicles of every conceivable style. An enclosure adjoining was opened to find hitching room for teams and shady nooks for private parties to investigate the contents of picnic baskets. The crowd was simply immense. To quote the piquant expression of a sweet girl picnicker with a fluffy flowing dress, jaunty Langtry hat and saucy eye, "the woods are full of them." The crowd was variously estimated at from 10,000 to 15,000 persons, and the latter number was no doubt much nearer the correct figure.

The Declaration of Independence was read by Judge W. L. Bower of Carthage who ably discharged the time-honored duty to the memory of the young republic.

The refreshment stands on the ground were rushed with business until the vast assemblage dispersed to the city in the evening. Even the swings kept up their whirl with a full freight of rural swains and their sweethearts.

The transportation was wholly inadequate to the accommodation of the visitors. The recent heavy rains and hot sun had so warped the temporary wooden rails of the street car line that the cars persisted in jumping the track with a frequency that made that mode of travel tedious. The trips could not be accomplished with the requisite frequency and a constant stream of pedestrians passed along the track from East Joplin to and from the park impatient with waiting. The buses, hacks, carriages and wagons were crowded as fast as a trip was announced. When the final stampede for the city came "walking was good enough" for hundreds, but they did not accept the alternative without grumbling. During the afternoon many persons visited the scene of young Shellenberger's terrible accident at no great distance from the grand stand. The old mortar and its odd missiles that lay scattered around unused formed quaint objects of interest to the gazers.

#### THE SHAM BATTLE

About five o'clock Broadway and eminences on either side of Joplin creek were peopled by a dense multitude of anxious spectators. The mimic battlefield had for its strategic point the high ground descending northeast from the old Broadway stables. This was occupied by the several posts of the G. A. R. in command of Major Redburn representing the Continental army under General Warren. Colonel Bender with the Galena minute men occupied a position on the right and Colonel Beach, with the Joplin vets and volunteers formed the left wing.

The attacking forces, who were supposed to be the British red coats, occupied the flat near the banks of Joplin creek. General Clark Craycroft was the commanding officer, his staff consisting of Colonel Weldy and Major Stafford. Colonel Howard with his battalion of English infantry occupied a position on the right, Colonel Williams commanding a battalion of London swells was in the center and on the extreme left was stationed Captain Livingston's battalion of North-of-Ireland lads.

Hostilities began by the attacking party sending out a line of skirmishers, who were fired upon by the enemy's pickets and after returning the fire retreated to the main line. The Continentals then sent out skirmishers and were met by a similar force from the other side. After sharp firing the former fell back followed by the detachment of red coats who were so brave that an orderly was sent out to order them back. The whole of the attacking force then advanced and after sharp fighting were repulsed with heavy loss. One man fell and lost his gun. The Britishers then ran out of ammunition and hostilities were suspended until the ammunition wagon appeared when the battle was renewed. Charge after charge was made until the red coats were finally routed and so hot, dry and muddy that they were willing to surrender.



The Carthage Light Guard, who had been to Pittsburg and captured a \$150 prize, came this way on their return home and arrived in time to witness the battle.

In the evening Hose Company No. 1 gave an exhibition of the practical working of our fire department on Main street. The fire pressure was given by the water company and the boys threw water in a way that astonished the visitors. As usual they acquitted themselves creditably.

#### A STORY OF SPANISH ADVENTURE

During the month of November, 1880, two Spaniards of noble birth visited Joplin in search of a buried treasure. The two gentlemen were Don Miguel De Soto Despenie and his son Ferdinand.

During their stay in Joplin they moved with great secrecy and an air of mystery, which excited the curiosity of the people, and on the eve of their departure the elder gentleman communicated to A. W. Carson, editor of the *Herald*, the object of their visit to Southwestern Missouri, and we reproduce it here on account of its romance and peculiar interest.

"In the year 1745 an ancestor of mine, seized with the visionary dreams peculiar to that day of the wonderful wealth that lay beyond the Mississippi, organized a company composed of hare-brained adventurers like himself, to search for the new El Dorado which they were confident existed in the western fields, and which it only required pluck and perseverance to discover. Before embarking at Seville the adventurers packed all their jewels, which were of immense value, in a small iron box. Their object was never to return home, but to establish a new kingdom independent of Spain, which accounts for their taking the jewels with them.

"A few years afterwards my ancestor returned, moody and silent, and the least reference to his voyage would cause him to fly into a towering passion. None of the company but him was ever known to return. He occupied a room in one corner of the old family mansion or rather castle, and was a hermit until his death, speaking to none except to make his simplest wants known. Some ten years ago the castle descended to me as rightful heir, and the first thing I did was to tear down and rebuild the edifice. In tearing down the walls of the room that had been occupied by my ancestor, the masons discovered a gold snuff box imbedded in the structure. It was given to me and upon opening the relic I found a piece of parchment on which was written the following: 'Enter the mouth of the Mississippi; four hundred miles north the mouth of a large stream entering from the west will be passed; four hundred miles further another large stream will be found entering from the west. Enter this, and four hundred miles will be found on the south bank a large promontory. In entering the stream at the foot of the spur will be seen a large rock, on the top of which is imbedded an iron ring and staple. Go one hundred miles further, then leave the stream and travel fifteen days north; then inquire for a

cataract. You will be on the edge of a vast plain and near the only falls in that vast plain. The natives can tell you where it is. Midway between the falls and the first stream north in a direct line you will find a flat rock on which is cut an arrow. Forty paces east, ten south and fifty east dig. There you will find the iron box and jewels. The fortune is for the one who tears this wall down and remodels the castle.'

"Not until a year ago was I able to leave my home in search of this treasure. My son and I, as directed, entered the Mississippi and upon ascending four hundred miles passed the mouth of Red river. Four hundred miles further we found and entered the mouth of the Arkansas, and four hundred miles farther we encountered the Promontory now known as Darnelles rock. Here we disembarked and sure enough found the iron ring and staple spoken of. We embarked on the next steamer and a hundred miles farther landed at the town of Van Buren. From here we started north on foot and in fifteen days' travel we found ourselves at the town of Neosho. Here we heard of the falls and of course were full of anticipation. From the falls we surveyed a line direct north to Turkey creek, and midway between the two points began the search for the rock. We were employed several days at this, but finally my son discovered the stone nearly a foot beneath the surface. The accumulated soil was taken off and there, as plain as the day, it was engraved with the tell-tale arrow. Accordingly we measured forty paces east, ten south and fifty east again. Judge our horror in finding at the exact spot where the box should have been a shallow hole that had been dug years past by some miner. Again and again we measured the distance and each time we came to that embryo lead mine. Some lucky miner had found the box and had sense enough to keep it to himself. I will place every detective in the United States on the watch, and if the fortunate miner is found will pay him more for the jewels than any other person on earth can afford to. They had been in the family hundreds of years before my ancestor took them away."

Strange as this story may appear, it is true in every particular, unless the Spanish gentlemen have imposed upon the editor, which is hardly probable.

## CHAPTER XXVI

### WEBB CITY

BUSINESS IN THE 'EIGHTIES—"WEBB CITY TIMES"—CITY POLITICS—  
AMONG THE LODGES—THE FIRE DEPARTMENT—DESTRUCTIVE FIRE  
(1883)—LEAP YEAR PARTIES (1884)—K. P. MASQUERADE BALL—IN  
HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. W. C. STEWART—WEBB CITY'S SECOND BANK.

We give below a partial list of the business establishments which made up the Webb City commercial activities of the later 'seventies and 'eighties. The list is taken from the *Times*.

Transient House—Built in 1875. Two-story frame hotel, one hundred and fifty by fifty feet; seventeen rooms, besides parlor, office and dining room; kept by Mr. Coyne and wife.

Western Hotel—Built in 1876; kept by Mrs. Pratt.

Pacific Hotel—Burned in 1883; kept by Thos. Flenniken and wife.

J. Van Buskert, groceries—Came from Joplin in 1876 and continued in business through the 'eighties.

C. R. Chinn and Company, drygoods, boots and shoes—Commenced business in 1877 in a seventeen by thirty foot store and with a \$3,000 stock. At the close of the 'eighties the store had been several times enlarged and the stock was valued at \$15,000.

Manker, Hewlett and Company, hardware, miners' supplies and groceries—Established in 1877. This was a most successful firm, turning their stock many times during the year.

Hancock & Lowe, china, glassware, furniture and undertaking—In the fall of 1878 James C. Hancock traded a team and wagon for a small stock of second hand goods and from this small beginning began his business career. In 1879 he took as a partner S. Laur, and the new member of the firm added hardware and later furniture and undertaking supplies. By the middle 'eighties the business had grown to such an extent that two large storerooms were required to hold the stock.

Chas. Wright and Brothers, drugs and jewelry—Established in 1879, with a \$1,200 stock and this firm continued in business for thirty years, when its senior member retired to enjoy a well-deserved rest. Will Wright is still in business, now being in the old Webb Bank building.

Dr. L. Green, druggist, moved to Webb City in 1879 from Medoc and established a large and profitable business.

E. E. Spracklin, photographer.

Parker Bros. & Sinclair, meat merchants and packers—Opened busi-

ness in 1880 and during the later portion of the decade confined themselves largely to wholesaling, doing an extensive packing business.

Hendrickson Murray, hardware—Established in 1879.

J. B. Oversheet, coal and wood, and Ward & Laster—transfer business, were established in 1880.

Parker Chinn & Company, drygoods, boots and shoes—Began business in 1881, which was managed by W. S. Chinn, later cashier of the Webb City Bank.

Gammon & Henderson and O. P. Sutherland, grocers, Allie Rice, milliner and the Webb City Foundry also entered the business arena in 1881.

1882 saw four more large business houses established—S. Morris & Co., clothing; S. A. Brown & Company, lumber; M. M. McClelland, confectionery and the Webb City Bank, founded by Jno. C. Webb & Son.

In 1883, the first opera house was built by Lester & Aylor. This play house occupied the second floor of a building at the corner of Allen and Webb streets, now the site of the Middle West building.

In 1884 Dunlap, Columbia and Bradford Bros., opened their doors.

1885 witnessed a considerable boom and the following firms entered the lists: Lowry & Dunlap, harness; W. F. Spurgeon, groceries; M. Goldstein, clothing; J. E. Magrader, groceries; Sheffer & Company, general merchandise; Abraham Hastings, confectionery, and T. J. Harrington, six times mayor of Webb City, opened a restaurant and oyster parlor.

1886 Stewart & Mathews, lumber dealers, came into the field, and in 1887 D. Klein (boots and shoes), Empire Clothing Company, Byrd & Reed (milliners), and Wampler Bros., groceries.

In 1888 the Dough Foundry was built by Harry Wanner and during the twenty-three years of its business has baked for Webb City and Cartersville several million loaves of bread.

In 1889 Gray & Burkhead, dealers in miners' supplies, was a firm added to the Webb City list.

#### THE "WEBB CITY TIMES"

Webb City's first newspaper was established in 1879 by Milholland & Single. The materials for the paper were purchased at Galena, Kansas, and had been used in publishing *The Galena Messenger*.

In 1880 Mr. Single purchased the entire interest. During the middle 'eighties Jesse Zook, now the mining statistician, was editor of the paper and gained for it an enviable reputation in the field of journalism.

#### CITY POLITICS DURING THE 'EIGHTIES

At the city election in April, 1880, the following officers were elected: Mayor, T. J. Harrington; marshal, R. F. Fitzpatrick; councilmen—D. H. Mack, John Marlsolf, John Lofter and D. J. Horn. The appointive officers were: Clerk, J. E. McNair; treasurer, C. H. Murry; collector, James N. Stephenson; city attorney, W. M. Robinson.



City Attorney Robinson, who made his advent into politics at this election, was chosen circuit judge in 1892 and elevated to the supreme bench of the state in 1894.

During this year several vacancies occurred. John Loftor, councilman from the second ward, resigned and was succeeded by A. J. Sinclair, and the marshal, R. F. Fitzpatrick, also resigned, and S. N. Hardesty was elected to fill out the unexpired term.

City officers for 1881: Mayor, T. J. Harrington; marshal, G. B. Milholland; councilmen—John Marlsolf, M. H. Zook, A. J. Sinclair and J. W. McClelland; city clerk, J. E. McNair; treasurer, E. T. Webb, attorney, S. D. McPherson.

1882: Mayor, James Gammon; marshal, S. S. Barclay; councilmen—A. A. Hulett, John Metcalf, J. B. Overstreer and John Pratt; city clerk, J. E. McNair, treasurer, E. T. Webb, and attorney W. M. Robinson. Mr. Gammon did not serve out the full term, resigning after a few months and Mr. Harrington was again called to the chair.

1883: Mayor, T. J. Harrington; marshal, A. J. Sinclair; city attorney, W. M. Robinson; councilmen—A. A. Hulett, John Marlsolf, John Dunlap and J. B. Overstreer; city clerk, J. E. McNair; treasurer, E. T. Webb.

1884: Mayor, T. J. Harrington; marshal, W. A. Ashcraft; councilmen, James Gammon, Ellis Shafer, John Dunlap and J. B. Overstreer. Appointive offices as above.

1885: Mayor, T. J. Harrington; marshal, A. J. Sinclair; councilmen—John Marlsolf, John Dunlap, James Gammon and Ellis Shafer.

1886: Mayor, William Hilburn; marshal, James A. Kennedy; councilmen—D. H. Mack, J. Dunlap, James Gammon and Ellis Shafer. Appointive officers as before.

1887: Mayor, William Hilburn; marshal, Alex Cann; councilmen—John Marlsolf, John Dunlap and D. H. Mock.

1888: Mayor, Peter McEntee; marshal, J. A. Brown; councilmen—same as in 1887.

Mr. Brown resigned as marshal, after serving three months, and Joseph Moore ("Buckrock" Moore) was elected to fill out the unexpired term. Mr. Moore was killed just before the close of his term of office by a man whom he was attempting to arrest.

During Mr. McEntee's administration the city limits were extended and the city changed from a fourth-class city to one of the third-class, the formal vote on the change being made December 26, 1889, and carrying by 380 majority.

C. E. Matthews served as alderman of the First ward from April, 1888, to April, 1890, and John Stringer as a member of the council from the Second ward during the same period.

In April, 1888, Joseph Fetters was elected police judge of Webb City, the office having been filled, prior to that time, by the mayor.

During the 'eighties Webb City had made a steady growth, the census of 1890 showing a population a trifle less than four times the official figure in 1880.

## AMONG THE LODGES

Webb City Lodge No. 512, A. F. & A. M., was organized April 5, 1882, with the following charter list: A. A. Houlett, W. M.; C. R. Chinn, S. W.; John C. Webb, J. W.; J. C. Stewart, S. D.; W. W. Greenlee, J. D.; James Gammon, treasurer; E. T. Webb, secretary; C. C. Coy, tyler, and J. C. Columbia, S. V. Hardesty, Charles Ward, J. W. Aylor, J. K. Eaton, John Dunlap and J. W. Chapman.

Webb City Lodge No. 115, Knights of Pythias, was instituted February 2, 1887, with twenty members, and at the close of 1889 had conferred the ranks on thirty brave men.

Reynolds Post, G. A. R., was also mustered in 1883 and has been a factor in the fraternal life of the city, having encouraged the observance of Decoration day, and also having taken a prominent part in the patriotic events, which have taken place in Webb City.

## THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The following interesting sketch of Webb City's fire department was written by one of the "old boys," who knew from long participation in fire-fights what he was writing about. It is taken from the *Joplin Globe*:

"It is a somewhat remarkable fact that in the thirty-five years' history of Webb City's existence there has never been a fire in which human life has been sacrificed. Nor has there during the existence of either the volunteer fire brigade or since the organization of the paid fire department been a single fireman who has sustained serious injury while rendering service in this line of public duty.

"With the exception of two fires that destroyed frame buildings occupying about half a block on the principal business thoroughfare, Webb City has had the good fortune of escaping the serious damage that has happened to many towns of its size from wide-spread conflagrations. It has not been an unusual thing for the reports of the fire chief for a year to show less than score of fires, in which the total loss would not be more than four or five thousand dollars.

"With such a record of good fortune, therefore, it is not considered so very remarkable that since the induction into office of Charles W. Evans, the new fire chief, covering a period of over six weeks, there has not until Thursday night been a call sent in to fire headquarters, and the alarm which then came from the burning Winslow mining plant does not count as a city fire, as the property that burned is outside of the corporation limits.

## PIONEER FIREMEN OF WEBB CITY

"In the way of reminiscence of this feature of the history of Webb City, a quartet of names included the men who have the best knowledge of what has happened in the way of fires, and of the measures taken in the way of providing protection against loss of life and property. These

four are E. E. Spracklin, Henry Wonner, T. C. Hayden and Fire Chief Evans.

“It was under the leadership of Colonel Wonner and ‘Tom’ Hayden that the volunteer fire department was organized in 1889, Charles Evans was among the most active of its members, and it was while Mr. Spracklin was mayor, in 1899, that the present paid fire department was authorized and organized.

“Until the close of the decade of the ‘eighties Webb City had no other protection from fire but the bucket brigade, brought into service for the emergency of the moment and without any recognized chief to control or command. It was while this condition of affairs existed, covering the first fifteen years of the city’s growth, that on two different occasions fires that threatened the business center of the town occurred. One of these started at the Barnes restaurant, at the southeast corner of Main and Allen streets, and destroyed buildings covering half a block; the other began in what was known as the Scott hotel, at the opposite corner, where the Webb City Drug Company’s store now stands, and swept everything along Allen street up to Parker’s saloon at its old site.

#### PULLED DYNAMITE OUT OF FIRE

“During the Barnes fire an incident occurred that Chief Evans has every reason to remember, as the occasion of an act of youthful heroism on his part which in his cooler moments has many a time since caused him to wonder how he did it. It was the custom then, it seems, for grocery stores to carry in stock a small quantity of dynamite, and knowing that it had been the habit of the firm of Gammon & Henderson, who had a store in that block, to keep an open box of powder on the premises, he rushed in to prevent, if possible, an explosion.

“‘If I had thought about it a moment,’ says Evans, ‘I expect I never would have taken the risk. Don’t believe I would now, but that was near thirty years ago, and thirty years makes lots of difference in a man’s life. The fire was burning furiously all around me when I went into the grocery store and found the open box of explosives standing there in the rear end, just where I had often seen it when I bought powder a dollar’s worth at a time. Picking it up, I carried it through a shower of sparks and bits of burning timber falling as thick as hail. I ran across Allen street and west on Main, and I tell you nobody was better pleased than I when I dropped it in front of the old Webb place, later known as the Burgner property, and found I had got free of the tricky stuff without an accident having happened.’

#### TOM HAYDEN AND GEORGE MOSELEY

“The volunteer fire department lasted about ten years, and the first seven years after its organization Henry Wonner was fire chief, with T. C. Hayden as his assistant. Jesse Kerns and Elza Marquiss were foremen of the two companies. They were furnished with hand hose carts,

that were bought for them at Carthage and paid for by the council. Asked what big fires occurred while he was with the volunteer brigade, Hayden's characteristic reply was, 'We didn't have any; we put 'em all out before they got big.'

Mr. Hayden had come to Webb City with the prestige of having been a member of the renowned Southwest Mail hook and ladder company of Nevada, which for a long time held the championship over all rival fire companies with whom they had come in competition. He threw all his native enthusiasm and resourcefulness into the training of the volunteer company here, and did much towards making it a most efficient organization. He tells a story of a visit one time to Carthage on one of the gala days at the county seat, in which a feature of the day's program was a tug of war.

" 'It was Webb City against Carthage,' he said, 'and we were a little shy in weight on our side. It was getting dark when the event was pulled off, and people couldn't see just who were the men on either side. George Moseley was then a member of the Carthage team, but I remember we succeeded in getting George to pull hard for Webb City about the time we needed him, and Carthage never knew just how they were beaten.'

#### COLONEL O'NEILL'S TIMELY OFFER

"Webb City until the purchase of the \$5,000 fire auto recently had a paid fire brigade for about twelve years, with four or five men at headquarters, and one of the original hose carts stationed at the west end, and manned when needed by volunteers who are paid for their services.

" 'It took a hard fight,' says Colonel Spracklin, 'to get the council to agree to the purchase of a fire wagon and team and the keeping of men constantly on duty at headquarters. I have reason to remember, for I happened to be mayor at that time. A majority of the council was against the proposition, and I don't know that it would have pulled through but for the timely aid of Colonel James O'Neill. When the council had apparently blocked the establishment of a paid fire department, Colonel O'Neill came to me and said, 'Go ahead; buy the wagon and horses, and if the council won't vote the money, draw on me and I'll meet the bill.' But, after a while, the council thought better of the proposition and the money was paid without availing ourselves of Colonel O'Neill's public-spirited proposition.' "

#### DESTRUCTIVE FIRE (1883)

Perhaps the most destructive fire which occurred in Webb City during the 'eighties was that which burned the Pacific Hotel and adjoining buildings.

In February, 1883, a fire broke out in the Pacific Hotel and before the sleeping inmates were aware of it, had spread beyond control. The hotel was a frame structure and was completely destroyed, together with six other buildings in the block.



The town was soon alarmed and hundreds of citizens turned out to help fight the fire. Parker saloon which was afire was, by heroic efforts, pulled over into the ruins and thus the fire was kept from spreading. While this work of pulling down the saloon was in progress other men were carrying water in buckets from nearby wells and water barrels to keep the adjoining buildings wet. The houses and stores on the opposite side of the street were on fire several times, but were saved. A large livery stable near by, which was well filled with hay and feed, was untouched by the fire, all of which seemed a miracle as the building was one of the oldest in town, dry as tinder, and while the conflagration was in progress the sparks from the burning hotel were continually flying over it.

The inmates of the hotel were awakened from their slumber and many of them were obliged to fly for their lives, without taking time to dress. *The Times*, in its account of the fire, said that the costumes worn by the boarders, as they came out of the burning building, would have been most unique at a masquerade ball.

One young man, now a prominent business man of Joplin, came running out of the building wearing a plug hat, a dress coat over his night shirt, and carrying his trousers, socks and shoes.

Another appeared bare headed, wearing a rubber coat and carrying his trousers and shoes.

Another man jumped from the second story of the burning building attired in a suit of red flannel underwear and the spectators present said that his flight through the flames gave a splendid representation of Mephistopheles in the *Black Crook*, a spectacular play popular in those days.

One man, C. E. Spencer, escaped without loss, as he took time to dress and emerged from the building carrying his trunk with him.

Col. Arthur J. Myers gave the following account of his personal experience during the fire: "I was awakened by some one pounding on my door and calling 'fire!' I sprang from my bed and looking out saw the fire in the room across the hall from me, and thinking that the bed was on fire seized the water pitcher and ran to help extinguish it. A second glance showed me that the building was on fire and I returned to my room for the purpose of getting my clothing. By this time the hall and room were filled with smoke and by the time I got on my pants, shoes and coat the flames had almost reached my room. I got down stairs some way, got a lamp and undertook to return to my room for the purpose of getting my valuables. Just as I reached the door the smoke put out the lamp and I was so stifled that I fell to the floor and was so choked that I could not call for help. All of a sudden I felt something stuntable against me and heard some one say 'What in h—l is this?' I was then carried down the stairs and out into the street. I lost my money, many valuable papers and relics that could not be replaced; among them my uniform and sword, old coins, a prayer book printed in both English and Hebrew and published in 1820, and many other keepsakes."

## LEAP YEAR PARTIES (1884)

In March, 1884, the young ladies of Webb City gave their first leap year ball. It was a most enjoyable affair and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone present. The following were among the fortunate ones to be in attendance: Annie Coyne and Paul Davey; Allie Rice and Guss Weyman; Mollie Rice and E. E. Spracklin; Allie McCorkle and Joe Aylor; Georgie McCorkle and Dave Mack; Clara Fountain of Carterville and Ed Bourne; Annie Jeffery and — Buel; Arria Jenkyn and T. J. Harrington; Clara Cann and Edgar Magruder; Ida Aylor and Dave Sutherland; Jennie Magruder and Will Wright; Jennie Robertson and W. M. Robertson; Minnie Chinn and W. S. Chinn; Jennie Columbia and Chris Columbia; — Hendrickson and Dorie Hendrickson; Fannie Wright and W. C. Stewart; Hettie True and Will Burton; Hattie Gates and Mr. Ellis Pick; Carrie Overstreer and Geo. Gammon; Tadie Hann and Chas. Ebert; — Shirley and Thos. Flourney; — Eggerman and Ed Merridith; Belle Vanfassen and Dave Goff; Sadie Coyne and L. Reynolds; Carrie Baker and Robt. Reynolds; Flo Powell of Joplin and Capt. J. G. Reed. In addition to the above were the following spectators: Messrs. and Mesdames C. A. Parker, E. N. Morton, T. A. Parker and John Brown; Misses Gladys Manker and Helen Jones; Mrs. Henderson and daughter, Lula; Misses Hankman and Walter; Mrs. Baker and Messrs. A. Martin and James Glass.

On February 29, 1888, at the Webb City Opera House occurred the second leap year ball of the Webb City smart set and was even more brilliant than the first, for at this second function the dresses worn by the fair sex were most elaborate and the gentlemen present vied with the ladies in the correctness of their attire, many of them appearing in full dress.

Although everybody was in a happy frame of mind, the printed rules for the occasion contributed not a little to the spirit of pleasantry that pervaded the evening.

One rule laid down the following law for the evening: "Gentlemen will conduct themselves in a lady-like manner."

Another declared that "no lady should smile unless accompanied by a gentleman," and still another said that "wall flowers should ask consolation of the ladies who had been there and knew how it felt to sit out a dance," and, as a final decree, engaged young men were cautioned against flirting as it was in exceedingly bad taste—"tit for tat."

At 12 o'clock the hostesses escorted their "willing subjects" to the dining room of the J. A. Craig restaurant and there served them with a bounteous repast, after which the bashful and timid young men were escorted home in carriages.

The following committees had charge of the ball: ——— committee: Misses Ella Reed, Gladys Manker, Pet Reed and Sis C ———

Reception—Mrs. W. S. Chinn, Essie Overstreer ——— Rice, May Turnpaw and Allie McCorkle.

The following were present: Loan Hager and ——— Hager; Tade Flourney and Tom Flourney; Carrie Hann and ——— Hann; Vaddie

Whiteley and Memphis Trimble; Allie McCorkle and Chas. Manker; Gladys Manker and Tom Headen; Ella Reed and Dan King; Ida Ayer and Dave Sutherland; May Turnpaw and Charles Sutherland; Hattie Carey and Frank Walker; Fannie Koontz and Clarence Gaston; Lyddia Byrd and Walter Spurgeon; Byrdie Newmyer and Mr. Cowan; Pet Reed and Jas. Coyne; Sis. Carey and Harry Green; Pet Johnson and Virgil McCoy; Hattie Reid and Mort Chambers; V. Letta Speaks and Will Wright; Mattie Hansen and Chas. Hansen; Mrs. Dave Mack and Dave Mack; May Byron and Thos. Coyne; Mrs. Byron and Dr. Whiteley; Julia Fallis and Jas. Fallis, Joplin; Lillie Elliott and Maude Rose, Oronogo; May Mitchell, Carthage, and Charles Ebert; Minnie Chinn and Charles Stephenson, Carthage; Essie Overstreer and Mr. Fills, Carthage; Allie Rice and Will Alrich; W. S. Chinn, Ben Peppers, Lon Archraft, Jasper Mars, Porter Curr and Lewis Reed.

Spectators: Walt Tholburn, Mr. and Mrs. Mathews, Mrs. Spracklin, Mrs. Hagar, Oronogo, Nora Mares, Cora Tholborn and others.

#### K. P. MASQUERADE BALL

In December, 1887, the Knights of Pythias gave a masquerade ball which was one of the social affairs of the year. The music, which was furnished by an orchestra of Knights from Carthage and Lamar, was especially fine.

More than one hundred masquers were on the floor, and the following partial list was furnished by the society reporter of the *Times* who attended the function: Duke of Orleans, J. T. Raysdale, Carthage; Duke of Argyle, H. Cohn, Carthage; Court Jester, J. W. Fisher, Carthage; French Count, Frank Panley, Carthage; Uncle Sam, C. T. Sweet, Webb City; Young Lady, C. G. Fishburn, Webb City; Count, C. P. Hendrickson, Webb City; Mikado, J. Hillman, Carthage; Scotch Highlander, A. Stultz, Oronogo; Duke of Essex, M. Elhart, Oronogo; Pink Dominoes, Lillie and Belle Stafford, Oronogo; Swiss Girl, Belle Chaney, Oronogo; Goddess of Liberty, Laura Snyder, Oronogo; Fortune Teller, Miss Short, Oronogo; Clown, Julius Becker, Joplin; Fancy Dress, May Byron, Joplin; Rowing Costume, Miss Stultz, Oronogo; Clown, ——— Henderson, Webb City; Webb City Belles, Ella Reid, Pet Reid, Aley Carey, Pet Johnson, Essie Overstreer, Callie Overstreer and Henrietta Miller; Chap-eron, Mrs. Hagar, Oronogo.

#### IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. W. C. STEWART

One of the most enjoyable social affairs in Webb City occurred in November, 1887, the occasion being a reception given by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Stewart in honor of W. C. Stewart and wife, who had just returned to Webb City after an extended wedding tour. The room was brilliantly lighted and beautifully decorated, the profusion of flowers lending an elegance which rivaled the beauty of the charming bride and the hosts of beautiful women present.

During the evening the famous Stephenson Wheatly Quartet—formerly of Webb City but then residents of Carthage—rendered a charming program of musical numbers, and at ten o'clock a sumptuous banquet was served at which J. C. Stewart, in his usual pleasant manner, presided as toast master.

Those present voted the affair to have been the most brilliant reception held in Webb City during the 'eighties. The following were the guests of the evening: Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hulett, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Hendrickson, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Mathews, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Mack, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Webb, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Aylor, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Ashcraft, Mr. and Mrs. S. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Overstreer, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Chinn, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Manker, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Koontz, Mr. and Mrs. L. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Robertson (Carthage), Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Wheatley (Carthage), Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Stevenson (Carthage), Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Lewis (Joplin); and Mesdames Ed Morton, R. L. Morton, A. McCorkle, R. S. Gaston, John Cooper, M. P. Henderson; and Messrs. C. W. Stephenson, Guss Hann, Harry Green, L. G. Gray, C. E. McBride, W. H. Write, Jesse Zook, H. G. Gaston, C. M. Manker, G. F. Edgar, C. L. Fishburn, Thomas Flourney, L. L. Conner and others.

#### WEBB CITY'S SECOND BANK

In the summer of 1889 Messrs. J. C. Stewart and brother, with the principal stockholders of the Center Creek Mining Company—the company which perhaps more than any other made Webb City famous—organized the Exchange Bank and soon built up a splendid business. This bank financed quite a number of the big projects of Webb City which were organized during the 'nineties and was a fine institution, although failed during the panic of 1893, to temporarily suspend until a realization could be made of its paper, it having loaned heavily to the mining companies who were opening up the district. There was no financial loss on account of its temporary suspension. In 1906 the Exchange Bank nationalized and is now known as the Webb City National Bank.



## CHAPTER XXVII

### CARTERVILLE AND OTHER MATTERS

CARTERVILLE DURING THE 'EIGHTIES—FIRST MODERN MINING MILL—CITY GOVERNMENT REORGANIZED—THE CHURCHES—SCHOOLS—VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT—AMONG THE LODGES—CARTERVILLE'S FIRST PAPER—CADETS—JASPER COUNTY'S MILITARY—FIFTH REGIMENT, MISSOURI STATE GUARD—REGIMENTAL CAMP AT CARTHAGE—BEN D. EARING'S CAMP MEETING—COLD WINTER OF 1884—MARKET REPORTS IN 1885—MINERAL TOWNSHIP RAILWAY BONDS—ORONOGO CYCLONE—I. O. O. F. CELEBRATION, 1886—LEHIGH—BELVILLE-ZINATE—THE SARCOXIE FAIR.

The 'eighties were all years of great activity for Carterville. The population increased 2,401 during the decade and all business activities grew in proportion, more particularly the mining industry, some of the richest mines of the district being opened up during that period.

#### FIRST MODERN MINING MILL

The first mining mill to be built in the county was constructed at Carterville, in 1880, by Weyman & Guengerich, and with the erection of this plant, the modern methods of cleaning and handling the mineral in southwestern Missouri was begun. We chronicle a few of the happenings of Carterville during the 'eighties in order that the reader may understand the importance of this city in a business and social way.

#### THE CITY GOVERNMENT REORGANIZED

In June, 1882, a petition was presented to Justice J. G. W. Hunt praying that an election be ordered to fill the several city offices of Carterville. The election was ordered and resulted in the choice of the following Board of Trustees: F. M. Hagerman, J. P. Walker, H. M. Gray, B. D. Morrell and F. A. Darrow. On June 25th the board organized by selecting F. M. Hagerman, chairman and J. G. W. Hunt, clerk. J. A. Poundstone was appointed marshal.

On Feb. 21, 1883, the city voted almost unanimously to organize as a city of the fourth class and at the spring election, April 4th, elected the following officers: Mayor, J. M. Straight; aldermen—J. S. Wilson, H. M. Gray, C. A. Hannum and G. F. C. Coil; marshal, W. G. Barley, city clerk; J. G. W. Hunt, treasurer; P. E. Hannum; and S. N. Andrews, city attorney.

## THE CHURCHES

In proportion to its growth in a business way, and in point of size, Carterville grew in religious spirit. The Methodists conducted a very successful revival, making one hundred and thirty conversions, while the Baptists and Christians each built up strong churches and erected houses of worship.

Among the eloquent ministers was the Rev. R. J. Downing, the Baptist preacher. Mr. Downing was a talented man, a graduate of West Point and a most eloquent speaker. Rev. J. J. Martin, one of the early pastors of the Methodist church, was also a gifted speaker.

## THE SCHOOLS

Carterville, during its days as a mining camp, organized as a country school district, and as such built a substantial four room frame school house. In 1887, however, the school district voted to organize as a city district.

In 1886 the school board formally prescribed a course of study and classified the pupils of the High School, the first class graduating in 1887 under the able superintendency of Professor Turk. This first class was an exceptionally strong one and, of its members, all have achieved a high degree of success in a business and professional way.

Professor Turk was succeeded in 1888 by W. L. Bray, a strong teacher formerly of Clarence, Missouri, and Frank L. McGoon, as High School teacher. Mr. Bray retired from the school in 1889 and was succeeded by Mr. McGoon, who gave the people a vigorous school administration. Mr. McGoon moved to St. Louis during the early 'nineties where he studied medicine and received his degree in 1893, still keeping up his interest in the public schools and being held a member of the St. Louis Board of Education in 1899.

## VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

In 1888 the Webb City-Carterville water works was built and on its completion the Carterville fire department was organized with Sidney Byers as chief of the department.

The Carterville fire department was an exceptionally strong organization, its personnel representing the very best citizens of the town, who remained connected with the department for many years. Some of them, although now grown grey, remain in the department as honorary members. This department did most efficient work and reduced the fire losses in Carterville to a minimum. At the South Western Firemen's Tournament it twice captured the championship banner, as well as capturing first money at Kansas City at the Volunteer Firemen's meet in 1900. They tied for second place at the fire manoeuvres at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904, some four hundred volunteer companies having competed

against them. The following gentlemen have served as chief of the Cartersville fire department: Sidney Byers, William Rose, F. B. Looms and Herman Cole.

#### AMONG THE LODGES

The triple-link fraternity, the I. O. O. F., was the first to plant the fraternal banner in Cartersville. In 1874 Lodge No. 314 was organized at Oronogo, but after the opening of the Webb City-Cartersville mines most of the members moved to Cartersville and the members of that place petitioned the grand master to move the meeting place of the lodge to Cartersville. This was done, the lodge meeting for the first time at Cartersville on January 6, 1880.

In 1882 the order built and furnished a very elegant lodge hall.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen and Grand Army of Republic both organized lodges in 1883, the Select Legion of the former, under the captaincy of D. B. Maurey, being one of the best drilled semi-military societies in southwestern Missouri.

The Masons also established themselves in Cartersville. A more extended mention of this fraternity will be made in our Cartersville chapter of the 'nineties.

#### CARTERSVILLE'S FIRST PAPER

In 1885 T. J. Shelton and W. D. Sallee founded the *Cartersville Mining Review* and published it with good success for a number of years. Mr. Sallee was a strong writer, and made good as an editor. He also published, during the later 'eighties a fraternal paper called the Knight of the Golden Eagle.

#### THE CARTERSVILLE CADETS

In the early part of 1884 there came to Cartersville a young Baptist minister, Rev. R. J. Downing, who was a graduate of West Point and ex-United States army officer. There is scarcely a man who has served in the army or National Guard, who is not thrilled when he hears the patriotic airs of this country, or who does not step a little faster and stand a little straighter when he sees a marching club go by. Although the pastor of a church, the old love of military matters clung to the captain and one day he conceived the idea of forming a military company in Cartersville. He began drilling a number of young men and so proficient did they become that Colonel Allen, of the Fifth Regiment, invited them to join the National Guard and become a part of his gallant command. The company was sworn into service by Justice Joseph Fountain and was officially known as Company F, Fifth Missouri State Guard.

The officers of the Cadets were: Captain, R. J. Downing; first lieutenant, John W. Rogers; second lieutenant, Clarence Harland. The company maintained its organization until 1886, when it was disbanded.

## JASPER COUNTY'S MILITARY

During the 'eighties Jasper county had four military organizations—the Carthage Light Guard, Joplin Rifles, Carterville Cadets and Joplin Zouaves, each of which will be spoken of at length in the history of the several cities.

The first three of these companies were a part of the Fifth Regiment, Missouri State Guard, which was formed in 1883, and on account of the excellence of the regiment and the important part Jasper county played in it, we make special mention of the organization.

## FIFTH REGIMENT, MISSOURI STATE GUARD

On January 1, 1883, Southwestern Missouri had seven crack military companies, all of them made up of the best citizenship of the state and each reflecting great credit on the community.

It might be added here, that it took a little bit more patriotism to be a guardsman in the 'eighties than now, for the reason that the uniforms and equipments, excepting arms, were bought and paid for by the individual members of the companies; also that there was a little more local pride in the several companies, for the reason that as each had a different uniform its manœuvring, appearance and decorum were more easily discerned and there was naturally a good natured rivalry among the commands.

The Carthage Light Guard and the Joplin Rifles, with a view of making their organizations more useful and also for the purpose of creating a stronger bond of comradeship among the Guardsmen of southwestern Missouri, took up the matter of the organization of a southwestern Missouri regiment, and on October 21, 1883, the commissioned officers of the Carthage Light Guard, Joplin Rifles, Springfield Light Infantry, Pierce City Guards, and Lamar Guards met in the G. A. R. hall in Joplin, acting under the authority of general orders issued by Adjutant General Jammison, and organized the Fifth Regiment by the election of the following officers: Colonel, C. C. Allen, of Carthage; major, Clark Craycroft, of Joplin.

In making up his staff Colonel Allen honored the following Jasper county militiamen: Adjutant Chas. O. Herrington, of the Light Guard, and Sergeant Major M. W. Stafford, of Joplin.

## REGIMENTAL CAMP AT CARTHAGE.

On July 3rd, 4th and 5th, in the year 1884, the regiment held its first camp at Carthage, under command of its colonel, C. C. Allen. Six companies were in attendance and the efficiency of the regiment was greatly improved. On the evening of July 4th, on the public square in Carthage, a dress parade was had and witnessed by fully five thousand people. This dress parade was an attractive sight, because of the variety and style of uniforms worn by the several organizations. The Carthage Light Guard



and the Springfield Light Infantry were uniformed in the cadet gray garb, similar to the full-dress of the West Point Cadets, while the Joplin Rifles and the Pierce City Guards wore the regulation blue of the United States army. This mingling of the blue and the gray was likened by the spectators to the reunited states and country where the chivalry of the north and the south were marshalled together under one flag. The matter of local pride was illustrated in the uniforms of the colonel and major. Colonel Allen, who had been a Union soldier in the war between the states, wore the gray of the Carthage Light Guard, while Major Craycroft, a native of Maryland and whose father had followed the cause of the south, wore the blue of the Joplin Rifles.

The regiments also participated in the Regimental Camp at Pierce City and the state encampment at Sweet Springs, the Carthage Light Guard (Company A) having the largest company in camp and the Joplin Rifles (Company B) winning honorable mention from the general commanding for its splendid appearance and camp discipline.

#### BEN DEARING'S CAMP MEETING

In August, 1883, a camp meeting was held on Carterville just west of the Missouri Pacific railway tracks and its influence was felt throughout the county. Rev. Ben Dearing, of the Webb City South Methodist Church, was the originator of the movement and planned the details of the gathering.

The camp meeting began Wednesday, August 22nd, and lasted for two weeks. One hundred tents were put up on the ground and rented to those who did not desire to bring camping outfits with them. There was also a restaurant on the ground and, in addition to the revival of the old-time religious custom, it was a most enjoyable outing for those who attended. The Missouri Pacific Railway ran special trains from Joplin, Webb City, Carterville and Carthage, and there was a daily attendance of from 2,000 to 5,000 people, quite a number remaining on the grounds the greater part of the meeting.

For the purpose of meeting the incidental expenses of the camp-meeting, a gate admission of ten cents was charged and in this way the advertising, rent of camp accoutrements, lumber for temporary speakers' stands, etc., were paid for. The meeting was useful in several ways. It brought together the religious workers of the county and strengthened the feeling of brotherly love that exists among enthusiastic workers of any great cause. It gave a delightful rest from business cares to those who attended the meeting and it afforded an opportunity of the masses to listen to the Word from one of the most eloquent and fervent preachers the county knew during the early 'eighties.

#### COLD WINTER OF 1884-5

Beginning with early December, 1884, and continuing until March, 1885, the southwestern Missouri counties were held in the grasp of Old Boreas.

The oldest citizen did not remember a time when there had been in southwestern Missouri a cold spell of such length. Every winter has its cold snap and below zero weather, but a three-months' stretch was an exception. Capt. W. K. Caffee, of Carthage, who before the establishment of the weather bureaus kept a record of the heat and cold, gives the following dates which show the length of the cold snap: Thursday, December 25th, 5 degrees below zero; Saturday, January 17th, 17 degrees below; Tuesday, January 20th,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  degree below; Thursday, January 22d,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  degree below; Wednesday, January 28th,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  degrees below; Tuesday, February 10th,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  degrees below; Monday, February 16, 7 degrees below; Friday, February 20th, 2 degrees below.

#### MARKET REPORTS IN 1885

In our notes of Carthage, in 1875, we published a market report and, for the purpose of contrast and comparison, we give below the prices paid for country produce in January, 1885; Wheat, No. 2, 60 cents; corn 32 cents; oats, 25 cents; Irish potatoes, 40 cents; sweet potatoes, 50 to 80 cents; apples, 40 to 45 cents; onions, 75 to 80 cents; butter, per lb. 20 cents; lard, 7 cents; tallow, 5 cents; eggs, per dozen, 20 cents; chickens, per dozen, \$1.50 to \$2.00; chickens, dressed, per pound, 6 cents; hay, loose, ton, \$5.00 to \$6.00; sheep, \$2.00 to \$2.50; cattle, \$2.50 to \$3.00.

The banner year for farm products during the 'eighties was 1881, when the Carthage mills paid, during August, \$1.19 for A. No. 1 wheat and in October gave the extraordinary price of \$1.30.

#### MINERAL TOWNSHIP RAILWAY BONDS

In the middle 'eighties a strong sentiment arose in opposition to the payment of the railroad bonds which had been issued by old Mineral township in aid of railroad construction, it being claimed by many that there were irregularities in the issuance of the bonds. At a mass meeting held in Webb City a strong committee, of which C. J. Lewis of Joplin was chairman, was appointed to look into the legal status of the bond issue and to act for the people as they thought best in the matter of their payment. At the request of the meeting Captain Lewis was appointed by the county court as fiscal agent for the county to make, if possible, a compromise with the bondholders, which he succeeded in doing, and the bonds were paid off, less the reduction made, as per the conference of the committee and the bondholders.

#### THE ORONOGO CYCLONE

In May, 1883, the city of Oronogo was visited by a destructive cyclone and many of the houses and stores were demolished and scattered over the prairie for miles. A person who has never witnessed the destruction of a tornado cannot appreciate the extent of the damage which was done to this town and its people. The writer, who



RUINS OF ORONOGO AFTER CYCLONE



RUINS OF C. E. ELLIOTT'S RESIDENCE, ORONOGO

went over to the scene of the disaster, remembers vividly the picture which the place presented. The uprooted trees, the innumerable piles of broken lumber and boards, made the town look as if a thousand demons had jumped in with axes and chopped the houses, barns and fences into kindling wood.

Early in the evening the oppressive heat, the blackening clouds, the lightning, and the thunder which resembled the cannonading of a hundred batteries alarmed the town. At a little after seven o'clock the cyclone came in all of its fury, and in five minutes Oronogo was razed to the ground.

A few minutes after the storm Thomas Jones, of Oronogo, came riding bareback into Webb City and gave the first information which the county had of the cyclone. From Webb City the news was 'phoned to Joplin and Carthage and relief trains were made up. Physicians and helpers from these two cities were soon on the way to the grief stricken and unfortunate town. The scene of desolation which met the relief crews was beyond language to express. The demon of destruction had entered the town from the southwest and had swept through the main part of the place carrying destruction before it.

James Cummings, salesman for C. E. Elliott, was covered by the debris of the store and had to dig his way out. Dr. and Mrs. Myer were sitting in their home when the storm came and saw the roof lifted off their house and carried two hundred feet away. Mr. George Goodwin and his family were at supper when the cyclone came. When they heard the awful roar of the wind they started to run, but too late; for the house which had been their shelter was blown over on them killing Mr. Goodwin and his step-daughter, Miss Sarah Bowdau.

The most miraculous escape was that of C. E. Elliott. At that time, his was the only brick residence in Oronogo and when the storm struck was bending over his child who was lying down. When the roof commenced to cave in he never moved, but acted as a shield for the little one until he saw an avenue of escape—through a hole which had been made in the wall and quickly gathering up the infant he rushed through this aperture and escaped without a scratch. Those who saw the room next day, a mass of bricks and lumber in one heterogeneous pile look upon his escape as a most miraculous thing.

Besides the two who were killed, thirty-three were seriously injured, among them Emmet Haines, Mrs. Haines, Mrs. Ellis, Mollie Haines, Dr. Lafayette, J. W. Haynes, James Cummings, Mrs. Napier, Mrs. Frye, J. Goodwin, Charles Wyatt, S. J. Scott, Mrs. Dr. Myers, Robert Gonley, William Hunsicker, Bert Stultz, Mrs. Morgan and O. H. Singer.

#### I. O. O. F. CELEBRATION (1886)

Avilla is one of the oldest towns in the county and is in the center of a rich farming district. On account of having no railroad facilities its growth was materially retarded but its citizens are highly progressive,



intelligent and patriotic. In 1886 the Odd Fellow lodge at Avilla invited the craft from all over the county to join them in the celebration of the sixty-seventh anniversary of the founding of the order in the United States and the celebration was highly successful. The visiting members came in carriages, buggies and wagons, and on the morning of the day, April 26, 1886, the four roads leading to Avilla were fully alive with people coming to take part in the day's celebration. Visitors were there from all over the county and in the parade two hundred and two members of the order and forty-three Daughters of Rebecca marched behind the banner of the order. D. A. Smith, then grand master of the state and, by the way, the first Jasper county citizen to reach that high post, was the orator of the day. His splendid address and the excellent good fellowship enjoyed by the members present did much good for the three-linked fraternity, and gave it an excellent advertisement among the country folks of the eastern portion of the county.

### LEHIGH

As in the later 'sixties and early 'seventies the town of Fidelity had risen to considerable importance, and then declined until nothing was left of the town excepting a memory, so in the 'eighties Lehigh arose, prospered, declined and disappeared from the map.

Lehigh, which during the middle 'eighties had upward of fifteen hundred inhabitants, was located about two miles southwest of Carl Junction on Center creek. The camp, which was first called Skeeterville, sprang into notice during the early 'eighties and in 1883 was organized as a village, with Oscar De Graff as chairman of the board of trustees. At the time of the organization of Lehigh there were seven saloons in the place, running day and night and everything was wide open. The incorporation of the town brought order out of chaos. In 1884 the town of Lehigh was organized as a city of the fourth class and S. A. Stucky, now president of the Carthage National Bank, became mayor.

Lehigh was a much talked of town until about 1887, when it began to decline. The zinc at Lehigh was exceedingly rich and large quantities of it lay under the creek bed.

With fifty or more drifts under the creek-bed, the ground gave way and let the water into the mines, and it was necessary for a time to abandon them.

Recently the old Lehigh company has turned the creek-bed some four hundred feet to the south, and now the old creek bottom is a scene of activity, a number of mines being worked where until a few years ago Center creek rushed on to Spring river.

### BELVILLE -ZINCITE

Early in the 'eighties a production camp was opened in the southwestern part of the county and just southwest of old Sherwood and called Belville, after the mining superintendent who developed the ground.

Like its neighbor, Lehigh, Belville had a rapid growth and at one time numbered more than a thousand. A town was laid out and a postoffice established under the name of Zincite. In 1886 a newspaper was started called the *Zincite Morning Star* and flourished for a time. During the later 'eighties Zincite had three lodges, among them a G. A. R. post of fifty members.

It had a playhouse, with a seating capacity of 400, two churches, and business in proportion. Zincite continued to thrive for some twenty years, but during the last decade has declined and now is only a hamlet.

#### THE SARCOXIE FAIR

The old historic town of Sarcoxie forged to the front during the 'eighties, fully doubling its population and in a business way increasing in importance.

During this decade two new churches were built and a commodious six-room brick school building erected. Its newspaper, the *Sarcoxie Vindicator* was a great factor in moulding public opinion in and around Sarcoxie, and this evidence of prosperity and life was crystalized in the organization of the Sarcoxie Fair, which held a number of excellent exhibitions during the middle 'eighties. The Sarcoxie Fair was more on the order of an exhibit than a racing meet—and here the agricultural products and live stock of Jasper, Newton and Lawrence counties were seen to the best advantage. J. M. Rice, the editor of the Sarcoxie paper, was the prime mover and leading worker in the enterprise. At the fair, fall of 1886, the Twelfth Regiment, Select Knights, A. O. U. W., held its annual encampment, which was a feature of the occasion.

In the prize drill for the championship of the regiment in which six legions participated, Joplin won over Neosho by the small margin of 41 points out of a possible 1000.

Decade  
of the  
Nineties

# THE CENSUS OF 1890.

Jasper township .....	955
Duval township .....	970
Preston township, including Jasper City .....	1,365

Jasper City, 400.

Sheridan township .....	955
Lincoln township .....	821
McDonald township .....	1,205
Madison township .....	1,248
Marion township, including Carthage .....	9,323

Carthage, 7,981.

Mineral township, including Oronogo. (Oronogo not listed separately in 1890) .....	2,145
Twin Grove township, including Carl Junction .....	2,323

Carl Junction, 699.

Galena township, outside of Joplin .....	4,360
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Joplin, 9,943.

Joplin township, including Webb City and Carterville .....	9,731
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Webb City, 5,043.

Carterville, 2,884.

Jackson township .....	1,315
Union township .....	1,309
Sarcoxie township, including City of Sarcoxie. City of Sarcoxie not listed separately in 1890 .....	2,532

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50,500



## CHAPTER XXVIII

### COUNTY AT LARGE

COUNTY POLITICS—EXCITING CAMPAIGN OF 1896—BUILDING OF THE COUNTY COURT HOUSES—CORNER STONE LAID OF JOPLIN COURT HOUSE—THE COURT HOUSE AT CARTIAGE—DEDICATION OF THE COURT HOUSE—AT THE SOUTH WEST MISSOURI TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF 1890—THE TEACHERS' NORMAL—AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, CHICAGO (1893)—THE INTER STATE CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLY—BUILDING OF THE INTER URBAN STREET RAILWAY SYSTEM—ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE JASPER COUNTY ELECTRIC CLUB—THE GOOD ROADS MOVEMENT—JASPER-NEWTON COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION—THE GRIPPE IN JASPER COUNTY.

A comparison of the census of 1890 and 1900 shows that Jasper county made rapid strides in point of population during the nineties, the county having gained 33,518 inhabitants during the decade.

The business of the county likewise increased in volume, especially the mining industry which at the close of the decade showed triple the value in output over the amount turned in during the year 1890.

We find it much harder in this chapter to classify the history into divisions than we did in the seventies and eighties, so much that properly was local in its character yet had a county-wide influence, was found, that in the narrative of this decade much of the history of Carthage, Joplin, Webb City and Cartersville will be found in our county-at-large chapter and we shall, however, as much as possible, confine our stories to the divisions in which they belong.

### COUNTY POLITICS

1890, being an off year, no great rallies were had, but both parties made a vigorous speech-making campaign, with the result that a mixed ticket was elected. The following were the successful contestants: Presiding judge county court, H. A. Atherton; associate justices (Eastern district) Clay Leeming and (Western district) James A. Daugherty; prosecuting attorney, James A. Dryden; recorder, John C. Barley; county clerk, Annie W. Baxter; collector, H. W. Crane; circuit clerk, Frank Ney; treasurer, Thomas Garland; assessor, W. S. Cohenour; coroner, Dr. E. C. H. Squire; state senator, W. B. Hendrickson; representatives, (Eastern district) W. R. Schooler and (Western district) H. B. Fraser; sheriff, James Purcell.

The presidential election of 1892 was an exciting one, the tariff question being the paramount issue. The vote on president was: Harrison, Republican, 5,360; Cleveland, Democrat, 4,801; Streeter, Populist, 1,818.

The county officers elected at this election were: Representatives, (Eastern district), R. T. Stickney and (Western district), H. L. Isherwood; sheriff, Jas. Purcell; collector, R. H. Crane; prosecuting attorney, J. T. James; judges (Eastern district), R. L. McMeecham and (Western district), Jas. A. Daugherty; treasurer, I. F. Russum; coroner, E. C. H. Squire; assessor, W. S. Taylor; surveyor, George H. Bradford; public administrator, John T. Willoughby.

1894: Vote on judge supreme court: Republican, 4,738; Democrat, 3,395; Populist, 1,286.

Representatives (Eastern district), R. T. Stickney; (Western district), W. J. Sailor; circuit clerk, F. B. Norton; recorder of deeds, James A. Seigler; county clerk, S. A. Stuckey; prosecuting attorney, H. L. Shannon; presiding judge county court, Charles W. Elliott; associate justices (Eastern district), Clay Leeming and (Western district), L. A. Fillmore; sheriff, W. S. Crane; probate judge, D. D. Keer; assessor, W. S. Taylor; coroner, William Galbraith.

#### EXCITING CAMPAIGN OF 1896

The campaign of 1896 was by far the most exciting of the nineties and also the most hotly contested of any election since the famous Hayes and Tilden campaign of 1876. The money question was the paramount issue; and over this question there was an almost complete new line-up for the great political battle that was on.

When the Republican party declared against the free coinage of silver, many members who favored bi-metalism left the party with which they had affiliated and formed the Free Silver Republican party which, as the campaign grew hot, affiliated with the Democrats. In the same way great numbers of Democrats who favored the single standard met and organized the sound money Democratic party and many of these, as the election drew on, voted with the Republicans. The Populist party also affiliated with the Democrats, and the alliance was sometimes spoken of as the Three Ringed Circus.

The excitement was intense and on almost every street corner and country store little groups of men could be seen discussing the all-absorbing question of the day.

Republicans wore yellow hats and yellow flowers, significant of the gold standard and the Democrats wore white hats and white flowers, significant of the white metal. Both parties held great rallies and torch light processions and at the four large cities these demonstrations brought together thousands of people.

The result in Jasper county was as follows: Bryan, Democrat, 7,016; McKinley, Republican, 4,819.

The county officers elected were: Circuit judge, J. D. Perkins; representative (Eastern district), M. P. Jenkins and (Western district)

James A. Daugherty; judge (Eastern district), W. R. Schooler, and judge (Western district), Albert B. Osborn; prosecuting attorney, Charles H. Montgomery; collector, S. A. Emery; sheriff, W. H. Warren; assessor, O. B. Morris; surveyor, Charles Clark, treasurer, J. M. Weeks; public administrator, James Day; coroner, Dr. William Whitley.

Officers elected in 1898: State senator, Ben. F. Thomas; representative (Eastern district), M. P. Jenkins; representative (Western district), A. G. Carter; presiding judge county court, James M. Hickman; associate justices county court (Eastern district), William R. Schooler and (Western district), M. C. Terry; sheriff, W. H. Warren; county clerk, S. A. Stuckey; circuit clerk, F. B. Norton; county collector, C. A. Emery; county treasurer, John M. Weeks; judge probate court, Marion Brown; coroner, Wm. Whitley; public administrator, Edwin O'Donnold; prosecuting attorney, H. L. Shannon; assessor, O. B. Morris and recorder, F. B. Steadly. The vote at this election was as follows: Democratic ticket, 5,567; Republican ticket, 5,466.

On the face of the returns John Malang, Republican, and F. B. Steadly, Democrat, tied for recorder. Both sides prepared for a contest, but after several months of legal manœuvres the contestants settled the controversy amicably, Mr. Steadly taking the office.

#### BUILDING OF THE COUNTY COURT HOUSES

After having twice defeated a proposition to build a court house the county, at a special election held July 15, 1891, by a vote of 6,816 to 3,106 decided to build two court houses—one at Carthage, to cost approximately \$100,000 and one at Joplin to cost \$20,000. The city of Carthage paid \$50,000 of the cost of the Carthage house. The election had been bitterly fought, the citizens of Webb City opposing the proposition.

On July 22nd, a jollification was had in Carthage which was attended by 20,000 people—10,000 taking part in the parade. A special train of nine cars, packed to the guard, came to Carthage from Joplin, and the revelry continued far into the night.

The election was contested by the citizens of Webb City and fought through the courts to the Supreme court, that body declaring the election void because the voters had not used the Australian system, which had been made a part of the laws of 1891 and had taken effect a few days prior to the election.

The matter was resubmitted to the people on May 9, 1893, and after a hotly contested campaign the tax was again voted, the ballot being as follows: For the court house tax, 8,174; against, 3,281; majority above the required two-thirds, 1,612.

#### CORNER STONE LAID OF JOPLIN COURT HOUSE

The laying of the corner stones of the two court houses marked two great days in Jasper county history. The court house at Joplin, being

the smaller of the two, was of course soonest ready for occupancy and the corner stone first laid.

The corner stone of the Jasper county court house at Joplin was laid with appropriate ceremonies May 8, 1894, and was a gala day for that city. Although the morning portended rain, fully 15,000 people took part in the exercises, which were slightly marred by the storm which came on before the ceremonies were concluded. The Board of Education dismissed the schools for the day and the 3,300 pupils witnessed the demonstration.

The parade was a most imposing spectacle and was participated in by fifty-one organizations which moved as follows:

- (1) Grand Marshal D. M. Page and staff.
- (2) Military division, Major F. E. Williams commanding: Joplin Drum Corps, Carthage Light Guards, Joplin Rifles and Scarrett Guards of Neosho.
- (3) School division, consisting of three marching organizations representing the Macedonian Phalanx, the Crusaders and the Continental Minute Men of 1775.

These three organizations had participated (in costume) in a school entertainment, February 22nd, and had made such a hit that they were especially invited to participate in the corner stone parade. The Macedonian Phalanx appeared in the costume of the time of Alexander the Great, the boys carrying spears. The Crusaders, in the habiliments of the legions of Richard Cœur de Lion, carried swords. The Minute Men appeared in the uniform of the Continental patriots and drew after them a small cannon which had been cast at Freeman's foundry and which had done service as an enthusiasm raiser, in the campaign of 1892, also the court house campaign.

- (4) Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Ancient Order of United Workmen division, Capt. R. A. Spear, commanding: Twin City band; Joplin and Carthage cantons; Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodges of the county and Ancient Order of United Workmen lodge—twelve organizations in line.

- (5) Knights of Pythias division, Capt. G. K. Davidson, commanding: Joplin Cadet band; Uniformed Ranks Knights of Pythias, divisions from Carthage, Webb City and Joplin and subordinate lodges of Jasper county.

- (6) Miners' division, Marsh Hinton, commanding: Marching club of miners in working clothes, carrying dinner pails, etc., followed by floats on which were seated two miners and carrying out the idea that the spade hands are the real kings in whose keeping are the destinies of the mining district.

- (7) Masonic division, Maj. Clark Crayeroft, commanding: Carthage Light Guard band; Knights Templar, Carthage and Joplin, Grand Lodge of Emergency; Masons of Jasper county; county officials and invited guests.

- (8) Neosho Hayseed band and Knights and Ladies of Honor lodges.
- (9) Fire departments, Chief A. Haughton, commanding: Joplin's





COURT HOUSE, JOPLIN

new paid fire department, with their new fire wagon and celebrated span of horses, Major and Dan; volunteer departments of Carthage, Carterville and Neosho.

(10) Mounted division, T. W. Cunningham, commanding: Galena Firemen's band and one hundred men on horseback, riding four abreast and making a magnificent appearance. Each of the horsemen wore a small United States flag in his hat and in each of the horses' bridles was a pretty boutonniere of red white and blue.

The following composed the Grand Lodge of Emergency who laid the corner stone: Most Worshipful Master, P. L. Crossman; Right Worshipful Master, Al Reynolds; S. W., E. C. H. Squire; J. W., E. F. Martin; Treasurer, W. S. Carson; Secretary, Harmon Cline; Chaplain, Rev. J. J. Martin; S. D., W. A. Skelton; J. D., Jno. H. Tutt; Grand Pursuivant, J. C. Faulkender, Tyler, T. J. Patterson; Grand Stewards, C. H. Hand, W. H. Miles, W. M. Thompson and A. S. Abbott; Bearer of the Bible Square and Compass, John S. Reynolds; Bearer of the Constitution, John S. McDonald.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies a number of addresses were made, among them those of S. A. Stuckey, Carl Junction, Jacob Friek, Jasper, and the mayors of Carthage and Carterville. The coming on of the rain shortened the program.

One of the most delightful features of the day was the entertainment provided by the Joplin Club: Capt. E. O. Bartlett as chairman of the entertainment committee, dispensed for the club at the Keystone Hotel, light refreshments before and after the exercises and every out-of-town visitor was invited to partake of the hospitality.

The Joplin court house was dedicated in April, 1895, and used until June 13, 1911, when it was destroyed by fire. At this writing it has not been rebuilt.

#### THE COURT HOUSE AT CARTHAGE

The corner stone of the Jasper county court house was laid August 23, 1894, and was an event long to be remembered. The ceremonies were conducted by Masons, assisted by various fraternal and military societies acting as escort in the grand parade which preceded the exercises.

#### PARADE

- (1) Col. W. K. Coffee and staff acted as grand marshal of the day and the parade moved in the following order.
- (2) Carriage containing the then four oldest living citizens in the county—Mr. and Mrs. John A. Dale, John Onstott and Judge Rushe.
- (3) Carriages containing the county officials.
- (4) Carthage Light Guard band.
- (5) Second Battalion, Second Regiment, M. N. G., Maj. F. E. Williams, commanding.
- (6) Masonic lodges of Jasper county, escorted by the Knights Templar.

(7) Galena Firemen's band.

(8) Battalion of Uniformed Ranks Knights of Pythias, consisting of divisions from Carthage, Webb City and Joplin, commanded by Col. Carl Gray.

(9) Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodges of Jasper county, escorted by Patriarchs Militant.

(10) Carthage Drum Corps.

(11) Veterans of Civil war.

(12) Joplin Drum Corps.

(13) Stone cutters working on the court house.

(14) Citizens.

The corner stone was placed in position by Honorable John D. Vincill of St. Louis, past grand master Missouri Grand Lodge of Masons. The following articles were deposited in the receptacle: The Holy Bible and photograph of workmen throwing first shovel of dirt; copy of *High School Star*; advertisements and posters of court house meetings; certified order of court announcing result of election; World's Fair coins; Rosters G. A. R. posts of Jasper county; literary societies of Carthage and Masonic bodies participating in the ceremonies; a \$10 Confederate bill; copies of all newspapers in the county; miscellaneous articles.

Mayor E. B. Jacobs, C. O. Harrington and T. B. Tuttle comprised the committee which planned and carried out the details of the exercises.

Fifteen thousand people witnessed the impressive corner stone ceremonies.

#### DEDICATION OF THE COURT HOUSE

The Carthage court house was formally dedicated October 9, 1895, with appropriate ceremonies. The exercises opened with a parade which was participated in by the military and civic societies and the school children of Carthage. The latter feature was an imposing spectacle, every one of the pupils wearing a badge and carrying a United States flag. John W. Halliburton was the marshal of the day.

Two speakers' stands were erected one at the northeast and one at the southeast corners of the court house and addresses were made by Congressman Burton E. C. Devore, of Carterville, T. B. Houghawout and Major H. H. Harding.

In the evening, at the Harrington Hotel, the Jasper Courts Bar Association held a meeting and concluded with a banquet, Hon. Galen Spencer of Joplin presiding as toast master. Among the toasts and responses were the following: "Our Courts," Major H. H. Harding; "The Lawyer," J. W. McAntire; "Our Clients," Thomas Hackney; "The Jury," L. P. Cunningham; "Oratory in Court," John H. Flannigan.

#### AT THE SOUTH WEST MISSOURI TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION OF 1890.

At the meeting of the South West Missouri Teachers' Association in December, 1890, at Lebanon, Jasper county carried off all of the honors.

In the oratorical contest in which sixteen of the twenty-seven counties in the association sent a contestant, Miss D. Lorane Buchanan, of Joplin, won the first prize. Miss Buchanan later became an actress of great ability. In the prize essay contest W. M. Wharton, principal of the Medoc school, and later county superintendent, won the first honor and in the general display of school work the Webb City schools captured the blue ribbon.

R. D. Shannon and S. A. Underwood, of Joplin, were elected president and secretary of the association and J. M. Stevenson, county school commissioner of Jasper county, treasurer, while Joplin was chosen as the place for holding the next session. At the Joplin meeting in December, 1891, a pleasing incident occurred. Treasurer J. M. Stevenson and Secretary S. A. Underwood were both present at the meeting in Carthage when the association was formed in 1878, and each had attended every session of the association from its formation. These gentlemen, with other teachers who were prominent in the educational affairs of South West Missouri presented to the association a gavel made of twenty-seven pieces of wood—one piece obtained in each of the twenty-seven counties. The gavel was a splendid souvenir and was also a beautiful piece of mechanical work. The gavel had in it ten different kinds of wood grown in South West Missouri. In presenting it to the president Professor Stevenson told a number of interesting reminiscences of the Jasper schools. A feature of the Joplin meeting was a class of sixteen boys and girls from the Longfellow school in Kansas City, who came to the meeting accompanied by the physical director of the Kansas City Schools and gave an interesting exhibition of calisthenic exercises. The director also read a very instructive paper on how to teach physical culture in the public schools.

#### THE TEACHERS' NORMAL

All during the nineties the Teachers' Normal continued to be a great factor in educational circles. Three hundred teachers and applicants for teachers' certificates attended the 1890 Normal and all who were in attendance felt that a profitable and pleasant school month had been spent. The faculty this year consisted of County Commissioner J. M. Stevenson, conductor; Prof. Howe, of the Warrensburg State Normal; Prof. Dodd, of the Carthage High School; Lyda Clark and V. L. Vawter.

Spelling was a feature of this year's course of study and at the close of the Normal a spelling contest was had in which 225 teachers participated. The following were among the teachers who scored 100: Agnes McCarty, A. B. Callison, Euphema Potts, W. M. Wharton, Alice Corley, Stella Hodshier, Sakie Gray and Ella Lawton.

In the final examination H. Church, of Carthage, received honorable mention for having turned in the neatest set of papers of the entire teaching body.

At the school election in 1893 W. M. Wharton was elected county commissioner and was twice reelected. In 1899 Prof. E. B. Denison, of Joplin, was elected superintendent.



All during the nineties the Normal was a great summer school, always having had a most excellent corps of teachers, and each year showed some advancement over the year previous. We will not attempt to set out in detail the accomplishments of each of the normals, other than to say that during the nineties it was held every three years at Carthage, Webb City and Joplin.

W. M. Wharton, who became county superintendent in 1893, introduced in the Normal the plan of issuing diplomas to the teachers who had completed the courses of study mapped out. The first Normal class graduated in 1898 and the examination passed by the graduates was the same as given by the state superintendent for a five-year state certificate.

#### AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, CHICAGO (1893)

In the selection of the Missouri Board of World's Fair Commissioners, Governor Francis honored Jasper county with the selection of Col. H. H. Gregg, of Joplin, as one of the five to look after the proper advertisement and showing of Missouri's great industries and resources, and to him was especially assigned the collection of mining exhibits.

In the Missouri building at the fair Jasper county was assigned one room, and this was filled up by the county under the direction of a board of lady managers selected from the different cities of the county. Mrs. J. W. Harper, of Carthage, was the president of the board of lady managers for the Jasper county room and this association met at stated intervals at different points over the county to devise ways and means for decorating the room and collecting the exhibits. In Joplin, Carthage and Webb City entertainments and balls were given by the ladies and a neat sum raised, to which the mine operators added \$3,300 for the distribution of advertising matter at the fair. The room was tastefully decorated and attracted much attention. Among the exhibits in the Jasper County room which excited favorable comment were samples of the various forms of lead in its native state and the manufactured product by the Picher Lead Company of Joplin. A huge pyramid of zinc was exhibited, made from specimens sent in from the different camps. Among the single pieces of zinc was a mass from the Blendville mines weighing 6,500 pounds and one from Webb City weighing 2,600.

#### THE INTER STATE CHAUTAUQUA ASSEMBLY

In 1897 there was organized the Inter State Chautauqua Assembly and the first of a number of interesting and instructive meetings held at Carthage June 21st to July 9th of that year.

It was originally intended to be a Jasper-Cherokee county affair and the first board of directors were chosen from the several cities of Jasper county and Galena, Kansas.

The officers for 1897 were: President, Dr. D. J. Stewart, of Carthage; vice president, Rev. J. B. Welty, of Joplin. Among the Jasper county citizens on the board were: Jno. H. Taylor, Rev. Paul Brown

and G. B. Young, of Joplin; Dr. Cook, president of Webb City College, and A. A. Hulett, of Webb City; J. W. Petty, of Carterville, and Dr. Goucher of Carthage.

The first assembly was a success in every particular excepting that the finances ran short on account of a severe storm during the middle of the meeting which kept down the attendance. Days were set apart for various organizations and a number of speakers of national reputation were in attendance, among them, William Jennings Bryan, Senator Dolliver of Iowa; Gen. S. B. Prentiss, the hero of Shiloh; T. DeWitt Talmage; Sam Jones and many others.

Bryan day, June 24th, 20,000 people were on the grounds and on the Sound Money day, when Senator Dolliver was the orator, almost as many were in attendance.

It was regrettable that the severe rain, which came on in the midst of the assemble, marred the financial success of the meet, because it had brought together, in a delightful summer school, the literary and music loving people of the county. Among the musical celebrities from abroad none outshone Jasper county's own Miss Emma Johns, of Carthage, now Mrs. De Armond, whose piano performances thrilled the vast assemblage who heard her play. The first Jasper County Chautauqua went down in history as a most delightful literary and social success.

#### BUILDING OF THE INTER URBAN STREET RAILWAY SYSTEM.

As in the seventies, the building of the three lines of railroad transformed Jasper county from an unimportant country community to a great wideawake business center, so during the nineties, three electric street railways were built and they wrought wonderful changes, both in a business and social way. The three electric roads built and operated were the Joplin Electric Street Railway Company, the South West Missouri Electric Railway Company and the Jasper County Electric Railroad.

The Joplin Electric Railway is mentioned in the history of Joplin and we will therefore speak here only of the South West Missouri Electric and the Jasper County Electric, all three of which are now consolidated and under the management of the South West Missouri Railroad Company.

In 1889 A. H. Rogers of Springfield built a mule street car line from Webb City to Carterville and operated it until 1893, when he organized the South West Missouri Electric Railway Company, took over the rolling stock, car barn, etc., of the Webb City-Carterville Street Railway Company and built an electric railway from Joplin to Prosperity via Webb City and Carterville. A considerable difficulty was experienced in securing the franchise in Webb City, there being quite a sentiment against an interurban line, many of the merchants feeling that a line to Joplin would have a tendency to take business away from the

local merchant. By a great stroke of policy, Mayor Manker, of Webb City, secured the insertion of a clause in the franchise providing that the principal offices, power house, car barns, etc., should be located in Webb City; and thus the second city in the county became the center of all the business activities of the now great interurban system. The importance of this *coup d'etat* will be more readily seen when it is called to mind that the road now has over 250 employees, fully one half of whom live in Webb City.

The South West Missouri Electric railroad was completed in the summer of 1893, the first car making the run from Webb City to Joplin on July 4th of that year. In 1896 the road purchased the Jasper County Electric Railway, running from Carthage to Cartersville, the Joplin Electric & Galena Electric railways. This consolidation gave to Jasper county a splendid interurban service. In 1903 the company extended its lines to Duenweg and also to Smelter Hill and Chitwood in Joplin.

In 1906 the South West Missouri Railroad Company was organized and took over the South West Missouri Electric with its several holdings and the Webb City Northern Electric Railway Company—an extension which had been built north to Oronogo, Purcell and Alba. In 1908 the road extended its line from Joplin to Duenweg, thus making a complete belt of the mining district. The same year the Villa Heights extension in Joplin was also made.

It will be noted from the above that the system is a most important part of Jasper county and with this quick transportation makes all sections of Jasper county neighbors. The line now has a total of over seventy-five miles.

It is a matter of pride to the county that there has never been a labor disturbance of any kind on the road. The employees are from the best families of the county.

In 1910 the Railway Company and A. H. Rogers built for the Electric Railway Club (an organization composed of the employees of the road) a beautiful club home. The building was furnished by the club and here a number of social functions for the members and their families have occurred.

The Jasper County Electric Railway Company, composed mostly of Carthage capital, was organized in 1892 for the purpose of building an electric railway from Carthage to Cartersville and Webb City. After securing franchises in Carthage and Cartersville, during which time many obstacles were overcome, work on the line was commenced in 1894 and the road completed in July, 1895. The road, which is now a part of the South West Missouri Railway Company System, at first entered Cartersville from the south, running through the northern portion of Johnstown.

The South West Missouri Electric Railway acquired this property in 1896 and have since greatly improved the roadbed, service, etc. The opening of the Jasper County Electric brought into popularity beauti-

ful Lake Side park, which from then to now has been a most popular pleasure resort.

#### ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE JASPER COUNTY ELECTRIC CLUB.

Beginning with 1904 the members of the Jasper County Electric Railway Club have held an annual banquet at which as many of the members as possible, with their wives and sweethearts, meet and spend a social hour. We copy here from the *Joplin Daily Globe* its account of the 7th annual banquet held at Webb City, December 14, 1911, as it will give an idea of the importance of these gatherings and the universal good feeling which exists among the employees of the road.

"The seventh annual dinner of the Electric Railway Club," says the *Globe*, "was held at the club house at Webb City last night. The banquet was served in the auditorium of the club house, which was handsomely decorated with chrysanthemums, white carnations and roses. The pillars were festooned with pampas grass wreathed with holly. Sprays of mistletoe were hung on the chandeliers. In nooks and corners were palms and potted plants.

"Shortly after 8 o'clock the great crowd, numbering 150, filed into the banquet hall. The wives and daughters of the street railroad men served the dinner. It was after 10 o'clock before the menu, which began with an oyster cocktail, followed by turkey and cranberry sauce, to the accompaniment of Pacific punch, then hot mince pie and coffee, was concluded. The smoke of a hundred cigars or more hung in contented clouds when Allen McReynolds, attorney for the Southwest Missouri Railroad Company, assumed his duties as toastmaster.

"Mr. McReynolds presided happily and gracefully. There was a fine balance of wit and dignity, a rare blende of seriousness and levity in his observations, while his introductions were models of conciseness and aptness.

" 'A year ago tonight,' said Mr. McReynolds, 'we dedicated this club house. It might not be amiss, then, to consider this occasion as the "feast of the passover." This club house, as most of us here know, is the property of the employees of the Southwest Missouri Railroad Company. I say employees, and I use the word advisedly, for we are all employees of this company from the president down to the trackman. Each of us has his work to do. Each of us is doing it, not merely in a routine way, not as a burdensome thing; but each of us is doing his part cheerfully and with enthusiasm. It can truthfully be said of the men of this company that the end of the day finds every man with a record back of him of work well done.'

"A number of newspapers were represented among the guests. Harry Moody of the *Cartersville Record*, Arthur Rozelle of the *Webb City Register*, Hal Wise of the *Webb City Sentinel*, P. E. Burton of the *Joplin News Herald* and E. H. James of *The Joplin Globe*, responded to the call of the chair.



“ ‘Once upon a time,’ said the toastmaster, after the representatives of the press had testified to the pleasure of the occasion and to the importance of the great transportation system in the industrial development of the county—‘once upon a time there was a president of the United States who coined the expression “innocuous desuetude,” a condition into which he subsided shortly after the utterance. We have here tonight a namesake of that president, who, it should be said, has not reached that deplorable situation.’

“The Rev. W. M. Cleaveland, of the First Presbyterian church of Joplin, frankly acknowledged that he didn’t know what ‘innocuous desuetude’ meant, but, without pausing to lament that fact, he declared it to be his intention of joining the Electric Railway Club if he could possibly qualify as a member.

“Mr. Cleaveland dwelt in an effective way upon the value of such meetings as this. ‘The courtesy of the trainmen of the Southwest Missouri Railroad Company,’ said Mr. Cleaveland, ‘is not only a matter of local comment; it is known afar. It has given the road and the company a reputation. This courtesy is not a mere superficial attribute. It is based upon a substantial foundation, the mutual confidence between the employer and the employed. This spirit of confidence finds sound expression in just such gatherings as this. These are great things. They make for fellowship. They make for trust. They are an advanced way of meeting one of the great issues before the people of today, the relationship between capital and labor. It is widely known, and here at home it is a matter of intense pride, that in the conduct of this transportation company the strife and bitterness that are too often found are not found here. You are about five years ahead of the procession. This situation is necessarily the result of effort and purpose, both on the part of the company and on the part of the men in the company’s employ.’

“Mr. A. H. Waite, president of the Joplin National bank, declared it to be his belief that ‘the courtesy of the men on this road has been one of the vital factors in its signal and distinguished success.’ ‘As a matter of fact,’ continued Mr. Waite, ‘courtesy is a mighty important factor in the success of any business or any individual today. It is an accomplishment that any man, whatever his business, may well cultivate. For courtesy is no solitary virtue. It is found associated with the other qualities upon which success is built—steadfastness, energy, purpose. The success of this company testifies that all those qualities exist within its code and make up its character. And for the success it is and the qualities back of that success you and we are to be congratulated.’

“Mr. J. Silas Gravelle, secretary of the Joplin Y. M. C. A., and whose work as a juvenile court officer is well known, was presented as the Ben Lindsay of Jasper county. Mr. Gravelle said that half his time was spent in trying to get men to play. He insisted that play was an important part in life, and if men would play, and play hard while they played, they would work just as hard when they worked. ‘Socialability,’ said Mr. Gravelle, ‘is needed. This club house is a practical embodiment of my theory. Here you can get together. It brings you a relation-

ship and a kinship which otherwise would not be possible. As I see it, it pays men to be good. It pays to be decent. I believe that socialability are great agencies in promoting decency; in making men good in a strong, virile, achieving sense.'

" 'The lawyer,' said Toastmaster McReynolds, 'has a hard time of it. His is a trying life. They say harsh things about the lawyer. His veracity is often questioned. I shall not discuss the subject. But I want to introduce a lawyer who, whether on the right side or the wrong side of a case, has never found it necessary to lie; a lawyer whose life and principles and position have been my inspiration—gentlemen, my father.'

"Mr. Samuel McReynolds, senior member of the firm of general attorneys for the Southwest Missouri Railroad Company, spoke feelingly of his long connection with the company, of its growth to its present vast dimensions, and of the many times he had attended these banquets. Mr. McReynolds said he had always undertaken to give advice and would not depart from his custom now. With a happy illustration he impressed upon the trainmen the necessity for observation.

"W. G. Peterson of the Electric Railway Club; Edward Wise, representing the conductors, and M. Y. Campbell, spokesman for the motormen, were called upon and in a happy vein outlined some of the difficulties that were encountered in their departments. The service the club was doing was well brought out by Mr. Peterson. Mr. Wise, veteran conductor, explained that if there was a vital difference between the conductors of this road and those of other roads the cause was this: 'On many roads a conductor is simply a cog in the machinery. On this road he is a man and is treated as such.'

"Mr. Campbell, speaking for the motormen, made it evident that he had profited by Mr. Samuel McReynolds' remarks on observation, because after recounting in a humorous way the shock he had experienced when told he was to make a speech, he said: 'I have seen that old fellow here many times before (pointing to the elder McReynolds) and I want to say he looks good to me.'

"Mr. A. H. Rogers, in response to the toastmaster's introduction, said he was glad to be with the Southwest Missouri Railroad Company. 'I like the job,' said Mr. Rogers, 'and I'm glad also that so many of you who are not connected with the company were able to be here tonight. You've seen us right at home. You probably have a different impression now of a street railway company than you're accustomed to get from many of the magazine articles. It is a significant fact that many of our men who are here tonight have been with the company for a great many years. It is also a fact of significance that this road is today owned by the men who built it. In that respect it is unusual. From all those facts it may fairly be concluded that most of us here are pretty well satisfied with our jobs.'

"It was midnight before the banquet was ended. Tonight the banquet will be repeated and the trainmen who did extra work last night

will attend the festivities, while last night's banqueters take their places in the schedule."

#### THE GOOD ROADS MOVEMENT

A Good Roads convention was held in Carthage September 22, 1898, for the discussion of road making and plans for the rapid construction of good roads all over Jasper county. Among the speakers were W. H. Moore, president of the Missouri Good Roads Association. Mr. Moore referred to the fact that there were 1,500 miles of public road in Jasper county, some of them well built and in a good state of repair. He said that the average cost of making a mile of good road was \$2,000 and that the plan for covering Jasper county with 1,500 miles of good roads meant a three million dollar proposition.

At the conclusion of his address the farmers and business men of the Eastern district organized a good roads club, with the following officers: President, C. O. Herrington, Carthage; secretary, Henry Keim, Carthage; vice presidents, Chas. Ballard, Sheridan township; J. B. Wild, Sarcoux township; I. H. Givler, Union township; Wm. B. McNew, Jackson township; Alonzo Elling, Madison township; David Potter, Marion township; T. H. Bell, Lincoln township; Geo. Brunnet, Preston township; Jas. Campbell, McDonald township. This organization accomplished much good and was the means of building many of the good roads in the eastern half of the county.

#### JASPER-NEWTON COUNTY OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION

In 1890 the old settlers of Jasper and Newton counties organized an old settlers' association and annually since that date the pioneers have held either the latter part of August or the early part of September (as conditions from time to time indicated as best) a reunion and picnic at Moss Springs, seven and one-half miles southeast of Carthage. This celebrated picnic ground is admirably suited to a gathering of this kind for three reasons: (1st) Being away from any of the large cities and at a spot which had been left as nature made it, the scenes presented are much as they were in the days before the war and as the county, for the most part, was in the reconstruction days after the unpleasantness of 1861-5.

(2nd) Being away from any of the lines of railroad, it is necessary for the old timers and their friends to go as they did before the advent of the iron horse and the electric car.

(3rd) As the nearest boarding house to the picnic grounds is several miles away, the people who attend have to take their lunches with them and, as every one knows, the eating of a picnic dinner, using the green grass for a table and getting the drinking water from the friendly spring nearby, is one-half of the pleasure of one of these out-of-door gatherings.

Those of the citizens of this county who have never attended one of these great reunions have missed a rare treat; for these gatherings have



been from the date of the organization of the association down to now great events in Jasper county's social happenings.

Of late years the annual picnics have served a two-fold purpose; they have been both a reunion and also a county exposition, where exhibits of all kinds have been made, and the taking of a premium at one of these gatherings is counted a great honor.

One of the most notable differences between these reunions and similar gatherings held in the cities is the absence of small shows and other tented aggregations which detract from the exercises proper, and are conducted merely as a money-making scheme. At the reunions of this society there are morning and afternoon programs, held at the rustic pavillion constructed for the exercises, and from the platform the prominent speakers of the old school recount the joys and sorrows, the pleasures and the tribulations of pioneer life; and those of our own day and generation enliven the scene by songs and literary exercises. During the noon-hour, of course, the most important part of the program is carried out—the picnic dinner—and as everyone brings a well-filled basket and enough not only for the family but half a dozen friends besides, every one goes away, as we used to say, “filled to the neck.”

We had thought to describe at length some one of the twenty-one reunions which this organization has had, but we are at a loss to know just which one was counted the most important or the most enjoyable, and will not particularize further than to say that at the reunions held the latter part of this decade the attendance has varied from 5,000 to 10,000, and the programs of exercises have been of such a character that every one has been “the best ever.”

The writer well remembers the first of these events which he had the pleasure to attend—the reunion in 1906. As we approached the ground, our party stopped at the Four Corners—six miles south of Carthage—and from the north, south and west, as far as the eye could reach, were seen a stream of buggies, wagons and horsemen coming to the great reunion. Arriving at the grounds, so dense was the line of vehicles that we were obliged to tie our horses half a mile from the speaker's stand and the sea of people who surged to and fro in the grand old forest bespoke the importance of the gathering as a social event.

#### THE GRIPPE IN JASPER COUNTY

Early in 1890 an epidemic of what is now commonly called the grippe spread over Jasper county and in an incredibly short time had a thousand people sick with the ailment.

When the grippe first made its appearance, it was called the Russian influenza, but the French name, La Grippe seemed more appropriate and the disease was so called by the people of America.

In Carthage it became necessary to close the schools for a short time, six teachers and three hundred and fifty pupils being sick with the grippe during the third week in January. Usually an attack of the



grippe did not last longer than three or four days, but those few days equalled two weeks of any ordinary sickness, as the patient for a time was all in with the influenza. One of the grippe victims illustrated the peculiar feeling of the affliction as being like sea sickness, and illustrates it with the old story of the man who crossed the pond and experienced the sea sick feeling for the first time. He said: "The first day I thought that I was going to die; the second day, I was afraid that I wouldn't; and the third day, I was well."

## CHAPTER XXIX

### MINES AND MINING

NEW PROSPECTING AND MECHANICAL ERA—DUENWEG—NECK CITY—  
REEDS—PROSPERITY—MINING AROUND CARTHAGE—ALBA, SARCOXIE  
AND ELSEWHERE—OUTPUT OF DISTRICT FOR DECADE.

During the nineties the mining industry spread over all the county, no longer being confined to the Joplin, Webb City, Carterville and Oronogo districts. We will, therefore, in this and the next decade treat the mining industries of the county as a whole and mention only a few of the important happenings to the end that the reader may have a general idea of the methods used, the value of the product and the extent of the operations.

#### NEW PROSPECTING AND MECHANICAL ERA

The year 1890 ushered in a new era both as to the manner of prospecting and the kind of machinery used. P. L. Crossman, of Oronogo, introduced the steam drill as a means of locating the mineral. Previous to this time the prospector sunk a shaft and, if he struck mineral, developed the mine, but, if nothing was found, abandoned the prospect and tried his luck elsewhere. Mr. Crossman conceived the idea of drilling for the mineral and in a much shorter time and less expensive method, by the drilling of a number of holes on a tract, it was demonstrated with a reasonable certainty the extent of the ore beneath the ground.

The price of zinc had slowly risen until in December, 1889, it was quoted on the market at twenty-four dollars a ton. From January, 1, 1890, to August 1, 1893, the price ranged from twenty-one to twenty-three dollars, but the panic of 1893 caused it to take a slump and from the latter part of 1893 to 1896, it ranged from seventeen dollars and twenty-five cents to twenty-one dollars. Through a number of causes combined, the price began to rise in 1897, and rose by jumps until 1899, when it reached the phenomenal price of sixty dollars a ton. From these figures it will be noted that mining activities were very sharp during the early and latter nineties, particularly the latter part of the decade.

During the latter nineties the old windlass and horse hoister almost disappeared, excepting for prospecting purposes.

## DUENWEG

During this ten years a number of new camps came into great prominence and at the close of the decade Jasper county boasted of a half dozen new towns.

Duenweg, six miles east of Joplin, first came into prominence in 1895, when H. U. Dale, Josiah Bennett and others sunk the shaft that later was given the name of the Newsboy mine. The mine was a great producer and the forty acres of land which but a few years before was prairie land and on the market at ten dollars an acre now was sold for \$40,000.

Duenweg in 1899 was spoken of as an infant wonder in the mining district. It was a phenomena, a prodigy and a lasting freak of remarkable richness. In 1898 land that a few years before could have been bought for a few dollars per acre was producing \$37,656 monthly in lead and zinc. The camp took its name from the eastern heirs to the property named Duenweg. The town has two railroads, and is in line with the prosperity and advancement of the county so self-evident to everyone.

## NECK CITY

Neck City, which at the close of the decade had some 600 inhabitants and which was a red-hot mining town, was at first called Hell's Neck, the mines being in the little bend of Spring river which like a neck circles around the camp and as the name indicates, it was the "warm thing"—that is, until the refining influences of the home life which came with a fixed town crowded out the rowdy element.

An interesting story is told of the original discovery of mineral at this point. Doctor Henry, a resident physician of Alba, three miles distant, was returning home one dark and stormy night from a visit to the sick in this neighborhood. To save distance he road his horse along a path through the timber. The night was far spent and the beacon stars were hid behind low-hanging clouds in the east. Drowsily the doctor rode along, mapping out plans for his visits on the morrow, when suddenly his hat was knocked violently from his head by an over-hanging limb. With muttered imprecations upon the limb the physician dismounted and felt around in the darkness for his hat. Finding it, he remounted and rode on. In a few moments his hat was again knocked off and the same trouble experienced in finding it. Five times this occurred in as many minutes, and the now thoroughly angry doctor tied his horse and sat down to wait for daylight, wondering at the strange happenings. In a short while gray streaks of light stole up from the east and Doctor Henry began to study his surroundings. He discovered his horse had lost his way in the darkness and had been traveling in a circle, thus passing under the same limb every few moments. The doctor further discovered that underneath this tree, partly uprooted by the storm, a fine bed of zinc ore had been uncovered. Miners went to work there and found some of the best zinc ore in the district. Continued work has revealed unusual quantities of zinc ore.

The output of the Neck mines for the first year averaged \$7,000 a month. The Big India Mining Company controlled the mining interests of this camp.

#### REEDS

In 1898 mining activities were commenced at Reeds. For several years good lead and zinc prospects had been discovered in the vicinity of Reeds by farmers in digging wells, but no particular attention was paid to it until 1898, when zinc in large bodies was discovered near the surface, while lower down high grade ore was found.

It is related that one of the original prospectors bought his interest in the mine for a crippled cow and later reaped a fortune from the prospect.

#### PROSPERITY

Prosperity was the name given to a camp which grew up around the old Troup mines. In 1899 the town had grown to 1,500. Twenty-four mining companies operated on this land, some of them famous in the mining world as big producers. Among the most noted producers are the Cherokee Company, Eleventh Hour, Hoosier, Irene S., Raymond, Richland, Goodenough, Grasshopper, Homestake, Gold Standard, McKinley, McGee, Mohawk, Spot Cash, Tenderfoot, Phoenix, North Star, Vernon and Troup.

#### MINING AROUND CARTHAGE

Some of the richest veins of zinc ore ever drifted upon were found in the immediate vicinity of Carthage. Mining had not been prosecuted with great vigor in this city for the reason that surface crops amply repayed the tiller of the soil, but the advance in the price of zinc toward the close of the nineties caused a stampede for mining lands, and many cultivated fields were turned into mining lots, filled with shafts and drill holes. Among the most valuable mines in the Carthage district was the Hayseed.

Frank Lamb began mining on what is now known as the Lamb land in August, 1889. The shaft was sunk to a depth of one hundred and forty-five feet. Ore was encountered at one hundred feet, and the miners began drifting at this level. In five months \$15,000 worth of mineral was taken out. In January, 1890, Mr. Porter bought the mine, and operated it until 1892. During the last year Mr. Porter had charge \$80,000 worth of ore was taken out. He sold out to a company that worked the mine three months, taking out \$20,000 worth of stuff—this, too, when seventeen dollars was the top price for zinc.

Unfortunately a cave-in occurred which rendered the land unsafe until the ground settled. In 1898 mining operations were resumed.

#### ALBA, SARCOXIE AND ELSEWHERE

Alba, which until the nineties had been only a country town, also came into great prominence just at the close of the decade, on account of the rich mines which were opened up.



At historic old Sarcouxie, rich zinc mines were also discovered and as the nineteenth century drew to a close it found Jasper county one great mining district and the value of its product running into the millions.

#### OUTPUT OF DISTRICT FOR DECADE

The following table will give an idea of the value of the mining output of the mining district of which Jasper county is the center:

Zinc and lead sales in 1890,	\$3,367,687.
Zinc and lead sales in 1891,	\$3,840,480.
Zinc and lead sales in 1892,	\$4,580,787.
Zinc and lead sales in 1893,	\$3,317,632.
Zinc and lead sales in 1894,	\$3,535,736.
Zinc and lead sales in 1895,	\$3,771,979.
Zinc and lead sales in 1896,	\$3,867,595.
Zinc and lead sales in 1897,	\$4,805,637.
Zinc and lead sales in 1898,	\$7,171,814.
Zinc and lead sales in 1899,	\$10,715,307.

## CHAPTER XXX

### MILITARY MATTERS

SECOND REGIMENT ORGANIZED INTO TWO BATTALIONS—LETTERS REPLACE OLD NAMES—FIRST APPEARANCE AT ST. LOUIS—THE FIRST REGIMENTAL CAMP—CAMP CUNNINGHAM, AUGUST 15-22, 1897—SHAM BATTLE—CARTHAGE HONORS HER DEAD—THE UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS—SEMI-MILITARY SOCIETIES—THE THIRD REGIMENT, U. R. K. P.—PATRIARCHS MILITANT, I. O. O. F.

Following the reorganization of the Carthage Light Guard, seven companies of the National Guard were quickly organized in Southwest Missouri, and on October 9, 1890, the officers of the several companies elected the following officers for the Second Regiment, Missouri National Guard: Colonel, W. K. Caffee, of the Carthage Light Guard; lieutenant colonel, A. B. Deggins, Springfield Rifles; major, Henry Allen, Sedalia Rifles.

#### SECOND ORGANIZED INTO TWO BATTALIONS

The Joplin Light Infantry, Company G, was mustered December 30, 1890, and completed the organization of the regiment, which was now divided into battalions, in accordance with the new United States army drill regulations.

Major Allen, of Sedalia, having resigned, an election was ordered for two majors for the First and Second battalions, respectively. H. H. Mitchel, of Nevada, was chosen major of the First Battalion, and Captain F. E. Williams, of the old Joplin Rifles, was elected major of the Second Battalion.

#### LETTERS REPLACE OLD NAMES

The local names were now dropped and the several organizations designated by letters. In assigning the letters priority was given to the company in the order of its organization. The companies were designated as follows: Company A, Carthage Light Guard; Company B, Butler Rifles; Company C, El Dorado Guard; Company D, Sedalia Rifles; Company E, Pierce City Guards; Company F, Springfield Rifles; Company G, Joplin Light Infantry, and Company H, Nevada Light Infantry.

Company C was disbanded shortly after the organization of the regiment, and the company which was mustered at Lamar took its letter and place in the First Battalion. The Second, Major William Batta-

han, comprised Companies A, E, F and G. The old Springfield Rifles was disbanded in 1894 and a company, at Clinton, took its place. In 1896 the Springfield company was reorganized and came into the regiment as Company K.

In making up his staff, Colonel Caffee called to his assistance the following who had served with him in the old Light Guard: Captain and Adjutant, J. M. McMillen; Captain and quartermaster, A. B. Deutsch; Captain and judge advocate, J. W. Halliburton. Lieutenant Harrington, of the Light Guard, was named by Brigadier General Milton Moore as one of his aide-de-camp, with the rank of major.

#### FIRST APPEARANCE AT ST. LOUIS

The Second Regiment made its first appearance at St. Louis in February, 1891, upon the occasion of General Sherman's funeral. Company G from Joplin, having the greatest number of men in line of any company attending the last sad rites held over the body of the great soldier.

#### THE FIRST REGIMENTAL CAMP

This was held at Kellogg Springs, near Carthage, July 17-20, 1892, and was named in honor of the regimental commander, Camp Caffee. The camp was a very successful one, about ninety per cent of the rank and file being in attendance. The military manœuvres very greatly improved the efficiency of the regiment, as well as furnishing the boys with a most delightful outing.

Camp Caffee presented a striking contrast to Camp Allen, which was held at Carthage in July, 1884, and which was mentioned in our Military chapter of the eighties. At Camp Allen there was a great variety of equipments, each company being clothed with a different uniform, but at Camp Caffee the entire regiment wore the blue of the United States army, the uniforms and equipment having been furnished by the United States government, the expenses of the camp, transportation, etc., were paid by the state. To give an idea of the magnitude of the camp, we present the following figures which represent a portion of the daily rations furnished the men. The commissary department issued each day, among other items, 600 pounds of fresh beef, 600 pounds of corned beef, 600 pounds of ham, and 450 loaves of bread as staples, with coffee, tea, butter, eggs, etc., on the side. The Second Regiment also participated in state camps at Lake Contrary and St. Joseph, and held regimental camps at Springfield, Sedalia, Lamar and Joplin. We make mention here of the Joplin camp, because it is one of the Jasper county events and because it was the last one held before the regiment was called into the service of the United States in the Spanish-American war.

#### CAMP CUNNINGHAM, AUGUST 15-22, 1897

The Second Regiment went into camp at Joplin for a week's school of instruction August 15, 1897, and the "meet" was named in honor of Major Cunningham, who extended the regiment a night royal welcome.

and issued a proclamation asking the citizens to join with the city officials in making the stay of the guardsmen a pleasant one. Nine companies were in attendance: Company A, Carthage, Capt. Jno. A. McMillen; Company B, Butler, Captain V. L. Johnson; Company C, Lamar, Capt. F. M. Thorp; Company D, Sedalia, Capt. George S. Edmondson; Company E, Pierce City, Capt. W. A. Raupp; Company F, Clinton, Capt. A. C. Landon; Company G, Joplin, Capt. Robt. A. Spear; Company H, Nevada, Capt. George B. Cawswell; Company K, Springfield, Capt. A. B. Deggins; regimental band, Joplin, T. J. Hughes, director.

A full complement of regimental officers were present, the field and staff being: Colonel commanding, W. K. Caffee, Carthage; lieutenant colonel, H. C. Demuth, Sedalia; major First Battalion, H. H. Mitchell, Nevada; major Second Battalion, F. E. Williams, Joplin; adjutant, Capt. J. M. McMillen, Carthage; quarter master, Capt. A. B. Deutsch, Carthage; judge advocate, Capt. Jno. W. Halliburton, Carthage; surgeon, Maj. C. Crawford, Nevada; assistant surgeon, Capt. Wm. G. Cowan; ordnance officer, Capt. A. V. Adams, Butler; commissary, Capt. J. L. Saunders, Pierce City.

Captains Geo. H. Roach and W. A. Mason of the Seventeenth Infantry Regiment, U. S. A., and Lieutenant Osborn, Third United States Cavalry, were detailed to inspect the camp and assist in the instruction of the 500 guardsmen in attendance.

The following will give an idea of the daily routine of the men in camp—the camp regulations: first call, 5:25 a. m.; reveille, 5:40 a. m.; assembly, 5:45 a. m.; mess, 6:00 a. m.; police, 6:30 a. m.; sick call, 6:40 a. m.; assembly, 6:50 a. m.; adjutant's call, 6:55 a. m.; guard mount, 9:45 a. m.; company drill, 10:05 a. m.; officers' call, 11:30 a. m.; mess, noon; first sergeant's call, 12:45 p. m.; battalion drill, 1:00 p. m.; mess, 5:45 p. m.; dress parade, 6:45 p. m.; call to quarters, 10:15 p. m.; taps, 10:30 p. m.

After battalion drill in the afternoon the men were at liberty to rest and enjoyed themselves seeing the sights about the mines and other points of interest. Each evening in front of headquarters tent the regimental band gave a concert and every evening the camp was thronged with visitors from the city.

The third day of the camp the entire regiment visited Lakeside park and gave an exhibition drill in the evening, after which dancing was indulged in until a late hour.

Friday was ladies' day and the camp was visited by hundreds of the ladies of Joplin, Webb City, Cartersville, Carthage and other points.

#### SHAM BATTLE

Friday afternoon, in place of the regular dress parade, a sham battle was had and instruction given in skirmish battle formation. The battle was witnessed by a large number of citizens. Major Mitchell, First Battalion, and Major Williams, of the Second, commanded the opposing forces, and the fighting was very realistic.



The Second Battalion garrisoned a hastily constructed fort at the east end of Cox park and the First Battalion was the attacking party, which opened the fight by firing upon a skirmish line which had been thrown out by the Second Battalion and after the exchange of a few shots the skirmishers retired to the fort and the battle was on. A terrific fusilade of musketry was now kept up for half an hour or more, after which the attacking party charged the garrison in the fort. The battle was so fierce that the parties engaged in a hand-to-hand fight. A truce was now had and the belligerents carried from the field the wounded (?) and injured (?) soldiers, after which the fight was resumed. The First Battalion again charged the Second, which retreated, and it looked as if the attacking party would take the fort, when Major Williams, Sheridan-like, rallied the fleeing Second and drove the First Battalion off the field.

#### THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

The Second Regiment went to the front at the first call of President McKinley for volunteers and, after being in camp a short time at



COLOR GUARD OF SECOND MISSOURI VOLUNTEER INFANTRY  
At Camp Churchman near Atlanta, Georgia, Spanish American War

Jefferson Barracks, was sent with the main army to the south, and was stationed at the big camp at Chattanooga; later at Lexington, Kentucky, Atlanta, Georgia, and other southern points. The Second Regiment was one of the best among the volunteer troops and was frequently complimented by the United States army officers for its splendid discipline and military bearing. Colonel Andrews, of the Thirteenth United States Infantry, who was sent to inspect the Second, with other regiments, in his report of the inspection, said, "That the Second Missouri Regiment was more like the United States army ought to be than the regulars themselves, because of the personnel of the officers and men." Said he: "The discipline is excellent and the men are among the very best citizens in private life."

Adjutant McMillen and Quartermaster Deutsch both were called home before the close of the war on account of business, and Lieutenant John Bailey, of Company A, became regimental adjutant.

The Fifth Regiment, Missouri United States Volunteers, of which command Hon. Chas. H. Morgan was the lieutenant colonel, contained, among its commands, Company G, from Jasper county. This company was made up almost entirely of men from the rural districts and they were unusually strong and husky. The company was commanded by the following officers: Captain, George Whitsett, Carthage; first lieutenant, Russell Garrison, mine superintendent, Webb City; second lieutenant, Freeman Rowe, mine superintendent, Webb City.

Company G made a most excellent record in camp, and after the war Captain Whitsett was sent to the Philippines as judge of one of the military districts, where he made an enviable reputation as a jurist.

A company of the Sixth Missouri, United States Volunteers, was partly made up of Jasper county men—First Lieutenant J. J. Nelson and sixty men enlisting at Webb City. We were unable to secure a copy of the company roster of the above organizations, the adjutant general informing the writer that his office force was so limited that time could not be given to the copy of the names.

#### CARTHAGE HONORS HER DEAD

Among the soldiers who went to the front in the Spanish-American war with Company A, was Sergeant Charles Wood, who died at Camp Chickamauga, stricken with fever. The body of the sergeant was sent home for burial and was accompanied by a detachment of Company A. The funeral occurred July 14, 1898, and was largely attended, the business of the city having<sup>\*</sup>been suspended during the hour of the funeral.

In the funeral cortege were the ex-members of the Carthage Light Guard, under command of Capt. Geo. H. Thomas; the Modern Woodmen, of which lodge he was a member, and the Sons of Veterans.

#### SEMI-MILITARY SOCIETIES

As in the 'Eighties the Twelfth Regiment Select Knights A. O. U. W., comprising four Jasper county legions, had won great distinction as a semi-military organization, so in the 'nineties the Uniformed Rank of the Knights of Pythias and the Patriarchs Militant of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, through the regimental organization of each of these two great societies, brought the red plumed Knights and the gallant chivalry into prominent notice.

Although each of these two regiments contained companies in other counties than Jasper, both were largely officered by Jasper county citizens and, as South Western Missouri organizations, each played a prominent part in the social and fraternal life of the county.

## THE THIRD REGIMENT, U. R. K. P.

In 1890 there came to Carthage in the employ of the Frisco Railway Company and in the capacity of district freight agent, Carl Gray, a young man of great energy and executive ability who, through rapid promotion, reached the high station of vice president and general manager of the great 'Frisco system and who now is the general manager of the Northern Pacific. Young Gray, who was a graduate of a military academy, of military ancestry and a great lover of military manoeuvres was the organizer and father of the Uniformed Rank of the Knights of Pythias in Southwestern Missouri, and it was his energy and Pythian activity more than any other one factor which popularized the military branch of that fraternity during the early and middle 'nineties.

At the organization of Carthage Division No. 34 of the U. R. K. P., Sir Knight Gray was chosen captain commanding and, figuratively speaking, put Carthage on the fraternal map by the splendid manoeuvres of his division. Following the appearance of Captain Gray's command, divisions of the Uniform Rank were organized at Webb City, and Joplin and these, together with divisions at Monett, Aurora, Nevada, and North and South Springfield, made up the Third Regt. of which Capt. Gray was unanimously elected colonel, Julius Finke, of Webb City, lieutenant colonel; and Joel T. Livingston, of Joplin, major of the Second Battalion. Robert Robyn, of Carthage was appointed adjutant. The uniform of the Knights of Pythias during the 'nineties was, in the opinion of the author, the most attractive and knightly looking equipment that that body has ever worn. It was a decided improvement over the one worn by the Knights during the 'seventies and early 'eighties and far more attractive than the present.

The uniformed knights of the 'nineties were dressed in black broadcloth, coat of Prince Albert military cut, white helmet with red plume and the sword belt of red leather, and the buttons, trappings and other accoutrements silver mounted with white metal trimmings. The regiment numbered four hundred men, and it was an imposing sight to see this splendid organization in regimental formation.

The Third Regiment, as a whole, participated in the Knights of Pythias Fourth of July celebration at Monet in 1892, the national encampment at Kansas City, at the laying of the corner stone of the Jasper county court house; and a number of other public events. The regiment appeared at its best in Kansas City, at the supreme encampment, held in August, 1892, at which gathering it was designated by General Canham, commanding the U. R. K. P., to act as the official escort for the delegates to the supreme lodge, and as such led the way to the place where that august body assembled to legislate for the order.

The regiment did not compete for any of the prizes at the national encampment, but all three of the Jasper county companies won prizes that year at some one of the different gatherings they attended, and each reflected great credit on its home lodge.



In 1897 Colonel Gray was transferred to Wichita, Kansas, and the Third Regiment fell into a state of inactivity until 1902, when it was re-organized, and will be spoken of in our fraternal events of the last decade.

#### PATRIARCHS MILITANT, I. O. O. F.

In 1893 the six cantons located in the western border counties, from Kansas City to Joplin, were organized into a regiment and Dr. M. T. Balsley, of Joplin, was elected lieutenant colonel commanding. Colonel Balsley made a vigorous commander and by a systematic effort built up a fine command which, on a number of occasions, attracted the favorable attention of not only the Odd Fellows, but of the public at large.

Jasper county's interest in the cantons is largely centered in Canton Lincoln, of Joplin, which is especially mentioned in the history of that city.

The Patriarchs of the Odd Fellows is to that order what Knights Templarism is to Masonry, only that the military idea is more predominant, the several cantons being organized into regiment and brigades.

The word canton is a Swiss word and means a company of soldiers. Patriarch-Militants is a compound word and has a double meaning—Patriarch being a ruler and militant indicating ready for the fight. The Patriarch Militant must be a wise ruler and a good soldier.

#### THE UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Jasper county's Camp No. 522, United Confederate Veterans, was organized May 22, 1894, with forty charter members. The camp has had on its rolls 174 veterans of the Confederate army, but death and removals from the county has cut down the present membership to 72.

At the organization of the camp, G. R. Hill was chosen commander and held the office until the annual election of 1905, when he was succeeded by C. C. Catron, who held the position until his death on December 25, 1910. Z. H. Lowdermilk, post department commander, was called to the post of commander and at this writing is still the commander of the camp.

Jno. W. Halliburton was elected adjutant of the camp, at the date of its muster-in, and has filled the position with such care that the camp would never let him resign and he has held this important post through the sixteen years of the society's existence.

W. E. Hall, who was a resident of Jasper county during the war and one of the first to enlist in the regiment which the county sent to the front, was elected the first treasurer of the camp and held the position until his death in July, 1907, when he was succeeded by Jacob Litteral, who still holds the post.

Previous to the organization of the camp the ex-Confederate veterans of Jasper county raised \$1,000 toward the building of the Confederate Home at Higginsville, and since then has contributed \$775 toward its maintenance. In addition to the above, the camp has contributed the



following sum: \$100 toward erecting the monument at the Confederate cemetery, Springfield; \$100 toward building the Confederate monument at Palmyra and a like sum toward erecting the Confederate monument at Neosho. Eight members of the Jasper county camp have been sent to the Home at Higginsville, and six ex-Confederate veterans, not members of the Jasper county camp, have been sent to the Confederate Home and have been cared for by the Jasper county veterans who wore the gray.

The Jasper county camp of United Confederate Veterans has enjoyed an annual picnic and reunion each year since its organization, and at these gatherings the members have lived over the old days that tried men's souls and have, in memory, sat around the camp fire and recounted the pleasures and the sorrows, the hardships and the recreations of the soldier's life.

The Jasper county camp has twice been honored by the state organization by choosing a Jasper county citizen for the important post of department commander. At the state reunion in 1907 Z. H. Lowdermilk of Joplin was elected major general commanding the department of Missouri, and at the next annual meeting Jno. W. Halliburton, of Carthage, was chosen to preside over the veterans. This was considered a most extraordinary compliment to the Jasper county camp to have twice in succession one of its members called to the highest office in the state organization; a compliment which, however, was well deserved, for the two men mentioned have both given much of their time to the organization which has so signally honored them.

In 1905 the Jasper county camp entertained the department at Joplin, and a more extended mention of this meeting will be made in our Joplin items for the last decade.

#### ROSTER OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

We append here a roster of the Jasper county camp, correct to December 31, 1911:

Name	Rank and Command
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Z. H. Lowdermilk,	Co. H, 2 N. C. Infy.
W. E. Johnson,	Lieut., Talbott Regt., Raines Brig.
T. B. Wormington,	Lieut., Co. B, 3 Mo. Cav.
Harris E. Hatcher,	Lieut., Co. A, 1 Batt., Shelby's Brig.
J. W. Halliburton,	private, Williams' Cav. Regt., Shelby's Brig.
Jacob Litteral,	Co. D, Gordon's Regt., Mo. Cav.
George Burgoon,	Co. A, 10 Tex. Cav.
R. A. Scott,	Co. A, Livingston's Batt.
James C. Talbott,	Co. D, 10 Mo. Infy.
Wm. H. Price,	Co. K, 8 Mo. Infy.
W. B. McNew,	Co. D, 2 Tenn. Cav.

Name	Rank and Command
W. N. Blanton,	Co. G, 15 Ark.
Benj. F. Hatcher,	Co. A, Brice's Batt.
S. H. Webb.,	Co. H, 8 Tenn. Cav.
A. M. Payne,	Co. F, 3 Mo. Infy.
T. F. Pryor,	Co. B, Black's Regt., Mo. Infy.
John Arey,	Co. H, 12 Va. Cav.
Geo. F. C. Corl,	Co. B, 2 N. C. Cav.
Ferdinand Osment,	Co. B, Price's Batt., Mo.
Jonathan Loveless,	Co. A, 2 Tex. Light Infy.
A. B. Moore,	Co. I, 18 Tenn. Infy.
R. C. Friend,	Co. A, Williams Ky. Co.
J. W. Stich,	Collins' Batt. Brig.
G. F. Smith,	Walker's Regt., Taylor's Brig.
J. H. Lyon,	Co. B, 13 Ga. Pickett's Div.
E. T. Rhea,	Co. H, 3 Tenn.
J. M. Daugherty,	Co. A, 39 Tenn. Infy.
H. H. Dunning,	Co. K, 16 Mo. Infy.
Geo. Randall,	Co. D, 37 Tenn. Infy.
J. M. Bridges,	Co. D, 2 Regt., Shelby's Cav.
Thomas Moffett,	private, Holland's Co., Texas Rangers.
F. F. Langston,	private.
Abe Cox,	private.
J. H. Gist,	Co. A, Michael's Regt., Jeff. Thos. Brig.
L. C. Gilbreath,	Co. F, 10 Mo. Cav.
J. W. Aylor,	Co. A, Prindle's Batt., Sharp Shooters, Mo.
George Little	
C. S. Clover.	
Alex. Campbell,	Co. A., 8 Ark. Infy.
James Porter,	Co. B, 3 Mo. Cav.
F. J. Hazelwood,	Co. A., 11 Mo. Infy.
John LaFever,	Co. C, 11 Mo. Infy.
B. M. Wilson,	Co. A, 11 Mo. Infy.
L. B. Stevens,	Co. A, 11 Mo. Infy.
Lee Taylor,	Co. A, Brook's Regt., Fagan's Brig.
Richard D. Fallis,	Co. B, 2 Mo. Infy.
J. A. Broadhurst,	Co. F, 2 Mo. Cav.
W. E. Reynolds,	Co. A, Stone's Cav., Cabelle Brig.
T. W. Irwin,	Griffins Revir's Regt., Clark's Brig.
O. F. Arnold,	Co. I, 4 Mo. Cav.
A. W. Carmen,	Co. I, Green's Infy Mo.
J. M. Johnson,	Co. I, 2 Mo. Cav.
A. H. McCune,	Co. E, McGowan's Regt.
E. L. Howard,	Co. A, Todd's Regt.
G. R. Hill,	Co. B, 31 Mo. Cav.
A. P. Lomax,	Co. E, 39 N. C. Infy.
David Allen,	3 Mo. Battery.

Name	Rank and Command
W. R. Calfee,	Co. E, 17 Va. Cav.
T. W. Cunningham,	Co. I, 6 Mo. Infy.
J. E. Spiva,	Co. I, 3 Mo. Cav.
W. P. Phelps,	8 Ky. Cav.
M. A. Waldron,	Co. D, 28 Va., Garnett's Brig.
Jas. O. N. Gilbert,	Co. B, 7 Ark. Infy., Harden's Brig.
S. S. Nix,	Co. G, 7 Ky. Infy.
W. D. Boggs,	Co. H, 13 Va. Infy.
William Seaton,	Co. D, 17 Tenn. Infy.
Fred A. Smith,	Co. E, Williams' Regt., Shelby's Brig.
John D. James,	Gun's Regt., Adams Brig.

## CHAPTER XXXI

### CARTHAGE IN THE 'NINETIES

LOCAL POLITICS AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS—BUILDING OF THE CITY LIGHT PLANT—CITY PARK—NEWSPAPERS—BANKS AND BANKING—ORATORICAL AND DECLAMATORY CONTESTS—CARTHAGE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS—WHIST CONTESTS—REUNION OF THE SIXTH KANSAS CAVALRY, U. S. V.

This decade was distinctively a home-building period, and during the nineties many beautiful residences were erected, adding still more to the beauty and fame of the Queen City. Three more churches were built, and the teaching force of the public schools was almost doubled. As mentioned before, much of the history of Carthage had a country-wide influence—and appears in our chapter on the county at large—we regret that several of the articles which are purely local and are presented here are partially incomplete on account of our inability to secure some of the data which was desired to complete the stories.

#### LOCAL POLITICS AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

In 1890 Carthage surrendered its charter as a city of the fourth class and organized as a city of the third class. This was a most important change, as it enabled the city to provide for a more complete system of streets and other municipal improvements; also to raise a sufficient revenue to carry on, in a proper way, the several departments of the city government. Naturally, there was great interest manifested in the city election for 1890, as there would devolve on the officers elected at this time a complete revision of the city ordinances and the enactment of the many important laws necessary to put in operation the machinery of a third class city. Both parties put into the field a ticket which contained men of splendid business ability, and the contest was warm. The Republicans, being in the majority, won most of the offices. The first officers of the city, under the new charter, were as follows: Mayor, W. B. Myers; marshal, Asa Hurst; city attorney, Howard Gray; recorder, E. J. Montague; collector, Edward Garland, and treasurer, E. B. Jacobs.

City Council: First ward, Wm. R. Logan two years, and Geo. W. Koontz one year; second ward, M. Edstorm two years, and Geo. C. Howanstein one year; third ward, Jasper J. Smith two years, and Jno. W. Henderson one year; fourth ward, W. H. Black two years, and H. F. Beebe one year.



Among the first enactments passed by the new administration was an ordinance providing for better equipment for the fire department, \$1,500 being appropriated to purchase hose wagons and a hook and ladder truck.

It will be noted that a full complement of officers are elected every two years, and as the organization occurred in 1890 the general elections occur in the even years—in the odd years only one half council being elected.

Election in 1891:—Council members—Geo. W. Koontz, D. A. Innes, C. E. Turner and H. F. Beebe.

General election 1892:—Mayor, W. W. Calhoun; marshal, D. M. Stafford; city attorney, Charles Farrow; recorder, (police judge) Thos. Buckbee; collector, Edward Garland; treasurer, E. B. Jacobs; assessor, Frank Griscomb; councilmen: W. R. Logan, J. R. Freed, J. P. Coulter and E. A. Bissell.

Councilmen elected in 1893:—First ward, W. H. Black; second ward, James D. Eagan; third ward, Isaac Perkins; fourth ward, J. G. Hankla; fifth ward, L. M. Murphy and W. W. Sewell.

General election in 1894:—Mayor, E. B. Jacobs; marshal, D. M. Stafford; police judge, Thos. Buckbee; city attorney, Chas. Farrow; collector, Homar D. Smith; treasurer, Albert Rogers; assessor, Horace B. Martin.

Council—First ward, Michael Torphy; second ward, James Ross; third ward, Thos. Freed; fourth ward, George Brown; fifth ward, I. C. Hodson.

Councilmen elected in 1895:—W. H. Black, M. Edstrom, Isaac Perkins, B. J. Gladden and L. M. Murphy.

General election in 1896:—Mayor, George C. Howanstein; marshal, D. M. Stafford; police judge, Thos. Buckbee; city attorney, Harry Green; collector, Homar D. Smith; treasurer, Albert Rogers; assessor, W. H. Rhodes.

Council:—W. J. Porter, James Ross, George Brown, William Perry and I. C. Hodson.

Councilmen elected in 1897:—First ward, Michael Torphy; second ward, M. Edstrom; third ward, J. J. Wells; fourth ward, Andrew Zane; fifth ward, John A. McMillen.

General election in 1898:—Mayor, C. O. Harrington; marshal, D. W. Bruffett; police judge, Thos. Buckbee; city attorney, Harry Green; collector, Homar D. Smith; treasurer, Albert Rogers, and assessor, D. H. Paulding.

Council:—First ward, W. T. Porter, G. B. Light (unexpired term); second ward, James S. Ross; third ward, Charles A. Dumars; fourth ward, G. D. Wells; fifth ward, Joseph P. Eiffer.

Councilmen elected in 1899:—F. G. Lanbolck, W. W. Brunkley, J. B. Chaffey and J. A. McLean.

As will be noted, the officers of Carthage have all been men of high integrity and business standing, and have all, regardless of political faith, worked for the betterment of the city.

#### BUILDING OF THE CITY LIGHT PLANT

In April, 1897, the City of Carthage voted \$32,800 in bonds for the purpose of building a city light plant. The vote on the question was: For the city light plant, 624; against, 518. E. J. Lentz was appointed city electrician and superintendent of construction and personally supervised the building of the plant, which was constructed in a satisfactory manner.

#### CITY PARK

In 1893 the panic which swept the country did much damage to the business of Carthage, and many people were out of employment during the winter of 1893-4. To provide employment for these the city voted a considerable sum for the improvement of the city park, and many changes were made which added to its beauty and usefulness.

#### NEWSPAPERS

The *Carthage Press* and the *Carthage Democrat* were the leading newspapers of the city during this decade. The *Democrat*, which was purchased by Cornelius Roach, now secretary of state, had a large country circulation and molded very largely the public sentiment of the Democratic party. The *Press*, which during the early days was a Greenback paper, during the later eighties espoused the cause of a high tariff: and in 1890 became a straight-out Republican paper. C. Conrad who, with A. W. St. John, had jointly published the *Press*, retired from the editorial staff in January, 1890, and W. J. Sewell, now the editor-in-chief, became a half owner and took charge of the city and county news department. The *Press* is now the oldest paper in the county.

The *Silver Review*, published in 1896-8 by M. Mehan, was a spicy and well edited paper devoted to the cause of bimetalism and the official sheet of the Silver Republican party.

#### BANKS AND BANKING

The Central National Bank was chartered in July, 1890, with a capital of \$100,000. The following were its first officers: President, A. H. Caffee; vice-president, J. P. Newell; cashier, J. E. Lang.

In January, 1891, the Bank of Carthage increased its capital to \$100,000 and G. A. Cassel, its founder, was again called to the executive chair.

The reorganized First National Bank succeeded the Drovers. In January, 1890, the following were the officers: President, W. E. Brinkerhoffer; cashier, A. V. Wallace. These banks, since their organization, have been strong financial institutions. During the panic of 1893, not a single depositor lost a dollar; by their wise management they kept the business of Carthage on a firm basis, and by the liberality of their policy they tided many of the business men of the county seat over a rough sea of financial perils.

#### ORATORICAL AND DECLAMATORY CONTESTS

With the view of encouraging oratory and expression, W. H. John, of Carthage, offered for competition, at an annual contest at the Collegiate Institute, two medals—one for oratory and one for declamation. These medals created great interest among the students, and the annual contests were events which brought out some splendid orations.

The first contest for the John medal occurred at the close of school in 1890, the following students participating in the oratorical contest:

"Great Men of the Century," L. E. Brous.

"The Present Age of Woman's Opportunity," Hattie M. Means.

"Young American Citizenship," James Potter.

Mr. Potter won the gold medal for oratory.

The following entered the declamatory contest:

"The Golden Arm," Miss C. O. Luscom.

"The First and Last Defeat of Black Hawk," C. B. Malsenger.

"Ode to the Fallen," Miss M. P. John.

The first named speaker carried off the honors in this contest.

#### CARTHAGE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

As mentioned in a former article devoted to the Queen City, Carthage has always been a literary city and, like Old Boston, intellect and moral worth have been the measures by which social standing was rated rather than wealth. The women's club movement all over the state came into great prominence during the middle nineties and found Carthage with seven women's literary clubs, and these, in 1897, formed a federation of women's clubs with the following officers: President, Mrs. T. B. Hobbs; vice-presidents, Mrs. I. C. Hodson and Mrs. Samuel McReynolds; secretary, Miss Daisy Reed; corresponding secretary, Miss Matilda Wright; auditor, Mrs. V. A. Wallace; treasurer, Mrs. E. B. Jacobs.

With the view of bringing about a more complete organization and for the mutual benefit of the club women of southwestern Missouri, the Carthage Federation of Women's Clubs invited the club women of the several southwestern Missouri cities to attend a reception at the residence of President Mrs. T. B. Hobbs on November 9, 1897. Two hundred invitations were sent out and there was an almost unanimous

acceptance, eighty-one out-of-town club women being present, a representative being present from the following: The Century, the Emerson, and the Unity Literary clubs of Joplin; the Woman's Study Club of Webb City; Pierce City Reading Club, and the Friends in Council, of Springfield. The reception was a most elegant affair, the following ladies assisting President Hobbs: Mrs. R. E. McCarty, President Local C. L. S. C., Carthage; Mrs. I. C. Hodson, President Vincent Club, C. L. S. C., Carthage; Mrs. S. S. Riley, President Iantha Club, C. L. S. C., Carthage; Mrs. C. A. Turner, President Stratford Shakespeare Club, Carthage; Mrs. May Brader, President, Fifth Section Century Club, Carthage; Mrs. Geo. Stebbins, President E. H. Section Century Club, Carthage; Mrs. C. A. Blair, President Tourist Club, Carthage.

After everybody was acquainted, an excellent program was rendered, after which a dainty luncheon was served. This reception was the beginning of a series of highly enjoyable literary and social meetings of the club women of southwestern Missouri. It is with a touch of pride that we refer to the fact that it was Jasper county women who took the initiative in this very laudable work of spreading the higher thought among the women of the southwest.

#### WHIST CONTESTS

During the early nineties whist came into great popularity in Carthage and it was quite a popular pastime for the crack players of the county seat to meet the strong players of other cities in friendly contest; and these championship games always attracted much interest. Col. W. K. Caffee, Paul Davay, A. B. Deutsch and C. O. Harrington were among the best whist players of Carthage, and during the month of February, 1890, they were challenged by the crack team of Columbus, Kansas, to play a game.

The Columbus team consisted of Judge Cheshire, W. T. Timberlake, J. B. Henderson and Mr. Chamberlain. The game was played at Columbus and occupied an entire afternoon. The score at the close stood: Carthage, 245 points; Columbus, 192.

#### REUNION OF THE SIXTH KANSAS CAVALRY, U. S. V.

As mentioned in our war chapter, many of the Jasper county citizens who were loyal to the government went to Kansas and enlisted with the troops of that state. After the war they returned home and many of their comrades, who had been attracted by the native beauty of Jasper county (the regiment passed through Southwest Missouri many times during the progress of hostilities), came here to make their homes when the great unpleasantness was over, among them being Col. Wm. Clome, the old commander.

From October 15-17, 1890, the Sixth Kansas Cavalry Veteran Association held its annual reunion at Carthage and was attended by 198 survivors of that famous regiment. Chas. W. Elliott of Oronogo



was the president of the association and spared no pains to make the gathering the most enjoyable one ever had. At the close of the reunion a sumptuous banquet was served by the citizens of Carthage and much enjoyed—a number of the men who wore the gray attending the gathering, at the request and invitation of President Elliott, and assisting in the entertainment. The supper was served in Armory Hall, and six long tables were spread for the guests.

The following toasts were proposed and responded to: "The Veterans of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry," Geo. E. Emery; "The Flag," Jno. W. Halliburton (who wore the gray); "The Volunteer Soldier," Maj. Harding; "The Girl I Left Behind Me," Al Cahn; "The Ladies of the Sixth," A. W. St. John; "Our Government," Major Kenderdine; "The Sons of Veterans," Colonel Klein.

## CHAPTER XXXII

### LODGE AND SOCIAL EVENTS

Y. M. C. A. PERMANENTLY ORGANIZED—CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CALENDAR FAIR—I. O. O. F. NATAL DAY—THE UNIFORM RANK, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS DECORATION DAY—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS COLUMBIAN BALL—OGLESBY CAMP, SONS OF VETERANS, MEMORIAL MONUMENT—THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC—ASCENSION DAY, 1891—THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF BLUE LODGE—DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT, G. A. R.

A Young Men's Christian Association had been organized in Carthage in 1881, although its meetings had not been kept up regularly, and in January, 1890, a meeting was called to reorganize the association and to take steps to provide permanent quarters for meetings, reading rooms, etc. Professor Wardel was chairman of the meeting and E. E. Branden, secretary. Eighteen men signed the roll at this meeting, an adjournment was taken to a future date and an invitation extended to T. S. McPheeters, of St. Louis, chairman of the Y. M. C. A. State Board, to be present and address the members.

#### Y. M. C. A. PERMANENTLY ORGANIZED

At this meeting, January 29, 1890, thirty-five more names were added to the roster and the organization was perfected.

The officers elected for 1890 were as follows: Dr. L. I. Matthews, president; Hall Warden, secretary. Executive committee:—President Matthews, W. W. Calhoun, C. T. McElroy, F. D. Porter, Dr. L. E. Whitney, George Chilcote, W. E. Hall, G. Dreken, S. W. Driesback, E. E. Gard and H. L. Baker.

From that day to now the Young Men's Christian Association has been a fixture in Carthage and has exerted a great influence for good in the community. Its attractive reading rooms and gymnasium features have provided splendid social and club advantages to its members.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CALENDAR FAIR

One of the most enjoyable and also novel church entertainments given in Carthage during the nineties occurred April 2, 1890, at Armory Hall, and was known as the Calendar Fair. The entertainment

was given by the ladies of the Congregational church. The twelve months of the year were represented by twelve booths appropriately decorated and either by the entertainment furnished, or the articles sold, typifying the month or season.

The booth January was appropriately decorated to represent a winter scene and here, emblematic of New Year's day, refreshments were served free, new acquaintances were made and old time friendships renewed. This was really a splendid thought, because every one was put in a happy frame of mind at this first booth and at the visitation of the other eleven stations enjoyed themselves to the highest degree and, incidentally, spent their money more freely.

February was an old-fashioned New England kitchen. Yankee dishes were served and valentines and hatchets were offered for sale.

March, as a rule, is a windy month and while here in southwestern Missouri there is an occasional warm spell, still the frosty nights and cutting northeast winds remind us of the old fable-picture of Winter sitting in the lap of Spring, and so during these changeable days and blustering nights a sack of pop corn, or a bag of hot peanuts, is just the thing to drive away the cold—or punctuate a lagging conversation on the way home from singing school or the literary. March was a candy store and here tempting confections, peanuts and pop corn were sold.

In April when the city folks long for the first country air and hike to the woods for a scent of green, there it is that the happy lovers stroll along the long woody lanes to visit the fortune teller. The April booth was a veritable country bower, where the traveler found a lively gypsy camp—tents, camp fire and all—where one of the most bewitching Carthage ladies, dressed as "Wild Zenguralia," read palms at twenty-five cents per. It might be added that the readings were highly satisfactory and very comforting. Business men were told that they would prosper, politicians that they would be elected and every swain was as ardent a lover as Leander and the object of his affection as true as Hero.

May was the fancy bazaar where all kinds of scarfs, doilies, pretty neckwear and fancy work generally was offered for sale.

June was the flower booth and here cut flowers and potted plants were sold.

July, the natal month, was represented by the toy store, flags and fireworks being the stock principally featured.

August, the hottest month, led the sight-seers to the ice cream parlor and here they refreshed themselves on ices, cold drinks and cream.

At the next booth the little red schoolhouse and the ringing of the school bell announced that September had come, and with it the demand for books, tablets, slates, pencils, etc., which were sold to the needy.

October was typified by a picture gallery and very properly so. In October, when the harvest is gathered, the falling leaves tell the story of the departing glory of the summer. The rich beauty of the fields,

the grandeur of the forest, would be lost in winter if it were not for the magic touch of the painter who transcribes the glories of nature to the canvas and keeps before us the memories of the past.

November again brought out the skill of the New England housewife and set before the visitor at the inn a tempting Thanksgiving dinner.

It is needless to say that in December Christmas and the holiday season was the paramount idea brought out, and the toys and Christmas cheer made old and young be children again and sent them home in the happiest possible frame of mind.

#### I. O. O. F. NATAL DAY

The Odd Fellows of Jasper county celebrated the natal day April 26, 1890, at Carthage and, although the day was exceedingly disagreeable, a heavy downpour of rain marring the pleasure of the celebration, the exercises were attended by five hundred members of the fraternity. The Patriarchs Militant made a most imposing appearance, the canton from Lamar being voted the "cake" for general appearance and military bearing, every man in the company measuring six feet or more and not a single one weighing less than one hundred and eighty pounds. Rev. H. M. Hackney, of Joplin, was the orator of the day and delivered a pleasing address on the "Foundation Stone of Odd Fellowship."

In the evening the assemblage sat down to a banquet and the following toasts were proposed and responded to, the speaker being introduced in a happy vein by Al Cahn, who presided as toastmaster:

"Friendship," Rev. Pine, Carterville.

"Our Country," J. W. Halliburton, Carthage.

"The World, Our Field," Jno. B. Cole, Lamar.

"The Canton," Capt. Ira Creech, Joplin.

#### THE UNIFORM RANK, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

What Knights Templarism is to Masonry and the Patriarchs Militant are to Odd Fellowship, the Uniform Rank is to Pythianism. The military branch of the Knights of Pythias is so called because it carries out the chivalric idea of the several ranks of knighthood, the military branch, of course, being the Uniform Rank.

The U. R. K. P. came into great prominence in southwestern Missouri during the early nineties and Carl Gray, of Carthage, then division freight agent of the Frisco System being the father of the movement. Carthage division No. 34 won for itself, and the county seat, great fame, and for a number of years was a great factor in the fraternal life of the city. More extended mention of the Carthage Company Uniform Rank has been made in our notes of the semi-military societies in the county-at-large.



## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS DECORATION DAY

The third Sunday in June of 1890 was set apart as Knights of Pythias Memorial Day and, beginning with June 18th of that year, Fraternal Lodge No. 14 of Carthage has since appropriately observed that day. The first Decoration Day ceremonies were largely attended, A. R. Crane, of Lamar, being the orator of the occasion. The graves of the several departed Knights were decorated with flowers and the tender and comforting address of the speaker gave to the large gathering of Pythians a new inspiration, pointing the way to a nobler, grander and better life.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS COLUMBIAN BALL

The Knights of Pythias is purely an American institution, having been organized in Washington, D. C., and among its fundamental principles is the inculcation of patriotism and love of country.

One of the most enjoyable social events in Carthage during the early nineties was the K. P. Columbian ball, given December 21, 1892. The ball room was most beautifully decorated with the colors of the order and the flags of the nation. One hundred couples, most of them wearing the uniform of the order, participated in the dance, while many more witnessed the splendid pageant and lent eclat to the occasion by their presence. Quite a number of Knights from the surrounding cities were in attendance.

## OGLESBY CAMP, SONS OF VETERANS, MEMORIAL MONUMENT

Oglesby Camp, Sons of Veterans, was, during the nineties, a popular organization. It was strong numerically and played an important part in lodge circles. One of the most important things accomplished by the camp during the decade was the launching and carrying to a successful completion, a movement to build a monument in Central Park which would commemorate the deeds of the Jasper county Union veterans.

The movement was begun Lincoln's birthday, February 12, 1890, when the organization conducted a public camp fire, at which Dr. Reecer, of the Collegiate Institute, and Hon. Jno. H. Flannigan, delivered addresses. Following the memorial in honor of the great liberator, a fair was had, numerous articles were disposed of, and the money raised was placed in a fund to be used in building the monument. Al Cahn was the master of ceremonies and created much merriment by his announcements. His witty sayings and droll stories told in presenting the several articles for sale, put the audience in a happy frame of mind and made their bazaar a success.

Among the articles offered were a barrel of apples, which was to be voted to the handsomest man in the audience, and a barrel of potatoes to the homeliest in the house. In his offering Mr. Cahn closed his remarks by stating, in his inimicable way, that they had plenty of potatoes at his home, but were short on apples.

The vote to determine who was the handsomest man was as follows: Al Cahn, 100; Major Beeby, 93; Captain Buckbee, 12; Frank Hill, 4.

The vote to determine who should get the potatoes was not quite so spirited, being: Rit Myers, 30; A. W. St. John, 24; Dr. King, 10.

The barrel of apples and the bushel of potatoes netted \$112, which made a nice little nucleus for the monument fund, which was added to from time to time. The monument is a beautiful memorial pillar, attesting the valor of the boys in blue. The State Camp, Sons of Veterans, met in Carthage, May 17-18, 1892, and Oglesby Camp did itself proud in the matter of entertainment.

#### THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

The G. A. R. posts of Jasper county on the invitation of Stanton Post, No. 16, participated in a three days' reunion at the Fair grounds July 4-6, 1890, Hon. Leo. Reassieur, of St. Louis, being the principal orator. One of the features of this reunion was a flag-raising at each of the public schools of Carthage on July 4th, when Old Glory was flung to the breeze and floated proudly over the schools. A mention of the meeting of the Missouri Department, G. A. R., is made elsewhere.

#### ASCENSION DAY, 1891

Ascension Day, May 7, 1891, was duly celebrated by the Knights Templar of Jasper and Barton counties, Jasper Commandery, of Carthage, being the hosts and the Knights of Ascension Commandery of Joplin, and Mount Olive Commandery, of Lamar, with their ladies, being the guests. Two hundred Knights were present and the parade was a most beautiful sight.

The services were held in the First Methodist church and were concluded by the entire assemblage repeating the Apostle's Creed; the white plumed champions of the Christian religion, after the ancient custom of the feudal times, placed their right hands on their partially drawn swords, as they repeated the vow. After the services the Knights and their ladies were escorted to the beautiful homes of W. E. Hall and W. T. Tuttle where, while the Carthage Light Guard band, then second to no musical organization in the state, discoursed the sweetest music, light refreshments were freely dispensed.

In the evening, at Armory Hall, a sumptuous banquet was served and was thoroughly enjoyed by the Knights and their ladies. The following after-dinner speeches rounded off the day's pleasure and sent every one who sat at the festive board home with the kindest feelings for Carthage and her splendid people:

"The Grand Commandery," Rev. Dr. C. L. Woods, of Neosho.

"Ascension Commandery," Sir F. E. Williams, Joplin.

"Mount Olive Commandery," Eminent Sir G. B. Thurman, Lamar.

"The Eastern Star," Sir J. M. Stevenson, Carthage.

"The Ladies," Sir J. Y. Leeming, Webb City.

"The Day We Celebrate," Sir Allen Ward, Carthage.

"The Knights of Southwestern Missouri," Sir S. A. Underwood, Joplin.

"The Knights of Southeastern Kansas," Sir W. B. Stone, Galena.

#### THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF BLUE LODGE

January 13, 1897, rounded out thirty years of Masonic influences in Carthage and the event was duly celebrated by the blue lodges of the county. A delegation from Joplin, Webb City, Earlville, Oronogo and Sarcoux being present at the meeting of the Carthage lodge. E. B. Jacobs, master, presided. Past Master Robinson, who, was the first presiding officer of the lodge, was present, was escorted to a seat at the right of the chair and given an ovation. At the close of the lodge the ladies of the Eastern Star served a supper to the craft.

#### DEPARTMENT ENCAMPMENT, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The Seventh Annual meeting of the Missouri department, G. A. R., was held in Carthage, May 19-21, 1898, and was a great event in G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans circles at the county seat. Stanton Post No. 16, of Carthage, was a strong one and composed of some of the best business men of the city, and the department was entertained in a most excellent manner. The city was profusely decorated with flags and the grand opera house, where the meetings were held, was exceptionally well ornamented with the national colors.

Among the pictures which graced the walls of the building were the familiar faces of the great soldiers of the Civil war and the new heroes of the day—Roosevelt, Dewey, Sampson, Schley, and Fitzhugh Lee, who, in the Spanish-American war, were winning new laurels for the nation.

The meetings of the department were presided over by John R. Platt, of Kingston, department commander. Senior Department Commander Col. Chas. H. Morgan, of Lamar, was the only state officer not answering to roll call, but when his name was called the department adjutant made the announcement that he was with the boys of the Fifth Missouri, fighting for Cuban independence and this announcement was greeted with a round of applause.

Over six hundred veterans registered at headquarters. The veterans were from the troops of twenty-two different states. Among those who registered was H. B. Kramer, of St. Louis, who was in Carthage with Sigel and, as a member of Essy's famous battery, participated in the battle of July 5, 1861. A severe rain storm spoiled the parade and this was a great disappointment to the people.

In the election of officers, Capt. T. B. Tuttle, of Carthage, was chosen junior vice department commander, as a mark of token of regard

for the splendid work he had done as chairman of the committee of arrangements.

At the close of the session Captain Tuttle, on behalf of the Carthage veterans, presented each of the delegates with a beautiful G. A. R. badge, made in blue and gold, as a pendant, which hung from a tiny silk United States flag.

The encampment closed with a basket picnic at Lake Side Park, which was a very enjoyable affair.



## CHAPTER XXXIII

### JOPLIN IN THE 'NINETIES

LOCAL POLITICS AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS—THE OPENING OF WALL STREET—OPENING AND BUILDING OF EAST SEVENTH STREET—BUILDING OF THE CITY LIGHT PLANT—BANKS AND BANKING—JOPLIN RECOVERS FROM THE PANIC OF '93—SOUTH JOLPIN—JOPLIN SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT—JOPLIN ELECTRIC RAILWAY—CUNNINGHAM'S GROVE BECOMES A CITY PARK—THE "JOPLIN DAILY GLOBE"—JOPLIN TELEPHONE COMPANY—REDELL'S DEEP WELL—VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S TOURNAMENTS—THE PAID DEPARTMENT.

The early 'nineties in Joplin's growth and development may be compared to that period in life when the school boy changes into a man.

The surrendering of the old charter, in 1888, may properly be styled the commencement exercise, or Joplin's graduation from the overgrown, awkward, town-like period, and the 'nineties the vigorous activities of a growing city.

During the 'nineties Joplin increased in population 161 per cent. It established a public sewer system, built some fifty miles of macadamized streets and thirty miles of sidewalk. Numerous additions were laid out and annexed to the city and the municipal limits were extended, adding considerably to its area. A general boom air pervaded Joplin, especially during the early part of the decade, and a considerable eastern capital sought investment. Although the new-comers were from every section of the country, perhaps the greatest number were from the Sunflower state and from the great city on the Kaw, Kansas City.

Following the general plan of this book, as in the seventies and 'eighties we shall, in this chapter, group the important happenings of the municipal, school, business, church, and social life, presenting, as space will allow, a sufficient number of incidents to give a correct idea of the decade.

#### LOCAL POLITICS AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

As mentioned before, a general air of progress seemed to take hold of the people and the City Council, early in 1891, began to plan for a city beautiful. On April 8, 1891, the council held an all-afternoon session for the discussion of ways and means, what to do, and how to do the many things which were needed to make Joplin an up-to-date city.

Many good thoughts were presented and in time the plan for public improvement worked out.

City clerks: D. K. Wenrich, 1890-2; Jno. Cavanaugh, 1892-3; R. A. Spears, 1893-7; E. C. H. Squire, 1897-1908.

The election of April, 1891, was hotly contested and resulted in a mixed ticket being elected, as follows: Mayor, R. B. Tyler; marshal, J. J. Cofer; recorder, police judge, George Orear; city attorney, Jno. C. Trigg; collector, J. W. Calvin; treasurer, Geo. W. Gore. The following gentlemen came into the council: P. L. Crossman, F. L. Yale, Z. A. Norris, Thomas Field and Henry Sapp.

#### CITY LIMITS EXTENDED

At this election the corporate limits were extended and a considerable area added to the city.

At the election in April, 1892, six councilmen were elected—one for each of the four old wards and two for the new fifth ward. The successful candidates were: First Ward, D. M. Page; Second Ward, John George; Third Ward, Frank Stohr; Fourth Ward, Henry Sapp; Fifth Ward, J. M. McAdams and S. H. Crane.

City election of 1893: Mayor, W. B. Halyard; police judge, Z. A. Norris; marshal, Jno. A. McManany; city attorney, John C. Trigg; collector, J. W. Calvin; treasurer, G. K. Davidson; assessor, D. K. Wenrich.

Council: First Ward, Harmon Cline; Second Ward, Charles O. Frye; Third Ward, W. R. Brown; Fourth Ward, D. W. K. Henly; Fifth Ward, James A. Graves; city clerk, R. A. Spear.

Election of 1894: Council—First Ward, D. M. Page; Second Ward, J. C. Miller; Third Ward, J. M. McCollough; Fourth Ward, J. W. Moore; Fifth Ward, J. M. McAdams.

Election of 1895: Mayor, E. D. Porter; police judge, Z. A. Norris; marshal, Jno. A. McManany; city attorney, J. H. Spurgeon; collector, Luther McGehee; treasurer, G. K. Davidson; assessor, E. B. Dennison.

Council: First Ward, H. Cline; Second Ward, H. L. Chickering; Third Ward, Frank Stohr; Fourth Ward, D. W. Henley; Fifth Ward, T. W. Cunningham.

Election of 1896: Council—First Ward, T. B. Minor; Second Ward, G. R. Lavery; Third Ward, W. H. Warren; Fourth Ward, J. W. Moore; Fifth Ward, A. P. Mason.

City election, 1897: Mayor, T. W. Cunningham; police judge, J. C. Gaston; marshal, W. E. Morgan; city attorney, Joel T. Livingston; collector, Robt. A. Wilson; treasurer, Hugh J. Raible; assessor, M. W. Clark.

Council—First Ward, C. G. Swanford; Second Ward, G. A. Wadleigh; Third Ward, J. H. Spencer; Fourth Ward, Jas. M. Thurman; Fifth Ward, Grant Davis; City Clerk, E. C. H. Squire.

City election, 1898: Council—First Ward, F. B. Minor; Second Ward, Walter Scott; Third Ward, Chas. Shannon; Fourth Ward, G. R. Lavery; Fifth Ward, Jno A. Nichols.

City election, 1899. The city election of 1899 resulted in a mixed ticket, the following being the successful candidates: Mayor, J. H. Spencer; Marshal, Jno. A. McManany; police judge, W. M. Daurety; city attorney, Joel T. Livingston; treasurer, Jos. B. Glover; collector, R. A. Wilson; assessor, G. R. B. Roe; council, First Ward, H. B. Crossman; Second Ward, R. A. Loomis; Third Ward, C. W. McAbee; Fourth Ward, Ralph Danford; Fifth Ward, Grant Davis.

Each of the several administrations gave to the city some new improvement, and was marked by some features original, distinct and different from the preceding one. During Dr. Tyler's term of office a sewer system was built and something like fifteen miles of sidewalk were constructed in the residence portion of the city.

Previous to 1889 no provision was made for sidewalk construction, excepting as the people, through civic pride, built their own, but after the adoption of the new charter laws were enacted by the council making provision for all kinds of street and sidewalk improvement.

While Mayor Halyard was in the chair the paid fire department was organized. Mayor Porter encouraged the bringing to the city of various industries and in every possible way helped the investors to secure locations and concessions that would be conducive to the building of manufacturing.

During Mr. Cunningham's administration, aside from the usual routine of work in the way of policing the city, street improvements, etc., several out-of-the-ordinary things occurred which we deem of sufficient interest to warrant special mention.

#### THE OPENING OF WALL STREET

In 1890 when the Missouri Pacific Railway extended its yards and built the present passenger depot at Tenth and Main street. The city council, at a special meeting, vacated all of the thoroughfares from Joplin to Moffet and at this time, when but little building had been done south of the railway tracks, no great inconvenience was experienced, but as the city spread to the south there was a great clamor for an additional outlet leading from the main part of the city to the south and Councilman James Thurman of the Fourth Ward introduced an ordinance providing for the reopening of Wall street across the railway tracks. This brought on a contest between the city and the railway company which lasted for over a year.

The railway company refused to recognize the city's right to reopen the street and contended that the ordinance providing for the reopening was void and with a view of maintaining their position, kept a number of empty cars over the old roadway. The police, however, as they made their beats during the night, went at stated intervals to Wall street, and one night found that the switching crew had left the street open. It was then 2 o'clock in the morning. The street commissioner was notified and he at once 'phoned to his crew of street workers, and they arose from their slumber, went to the place where the city desired to

build the street and put in a street crossing. They then graveled the roadway across the track, and on the morrow the railway officials were astonished to find a well-built street across their tracks.

The fight now began in real earnest. The city put on an extra police force to guard the city street and as soon as a car was shoved over the track the train crew were arrested and taken to the city jail, where they, of course, gave bond for appearance in court and at that time were fined. The road next sought to enjoin the city from using the street and sued out an injunction, which was fought through the courts and resulted in a victory for the city.

#### OPENING AND BUILDING OF EAST SEVENTH STREET

Up to 1898 there were but two streets in the city leading to the east—Broadway and Fifth street—but neither of the roadways were well built and there was a clamor for a good county road giving an inlet to the rich farming and mining district to the east. G. A. Wadleigh, the chairman of the city council committee on streets and roads, proposed the extension of Seventh street from Kentucky avenue east across the Norton-Porter & Bankers lands, so as to make an eastern outlet. This seemed a herculean task. The right-of-way over the land having been acquired, another great task confronted the city—the building of the road bed. As it had been agreed in securing the right-of-way that the property owners should not be taxed to build the road, other means must be provided, and as a six and eight foot cut must be made in Swindle Hill and a six to ten foot fill across the Norton land, it required close figuring. At each council meeting Mr. Wadleigh moved that fifty dollars be spent in building the road (this was all that could be spent without advertising for the bids) and in due time the road was completed. It has since been a much traveled street and has opened to the city the farming district to the east.

#### BUILDING OF THE CITY LIGHT PLANT

Mayor Spencer's administration was marked by the building of a city electric light plant. The following gentlemen served as the first board of public improvement: L. A. Fillmore, John C. Trigg and G. A. Wadleigh—all of whom gave much time to the supervision of the installation of the service. The original expenditure for the plant was \$30,000. The city purchased the old power house of the electric railway as a home for the plant, and work on the plant was pushed. J. A. McDonald was the first superintendent of the light plant. Lights were first turned on and the city lighted by its own current February 16, 1900.

Too much cannot be said of the personal supervision and the time given to the city by the first light board. It was a great experiment for the city to make and these gentlemen realized that careful, painstaking and businesslike methods must be pursued, and gave to the matter of construction almost all of their time, making at their own expense trips



to other cities while inspecting the different systems and methods. Their work gave to Joplin a splendidly managed and successful lighting system.

#### BANKS AND BANKING

Two banks were organized in Joplin during the 'nineties, the Joplin State and the Interstate, the first named is still one of the great factors in Joplin's business world, its head, A. H. Waite, being at this writing the president of the Missouri Bankers' Association.

The Joplin National Bank was organized in 1890, Henry Newman, late of St. Louis, being its first president and A. H. Waite, late of the Miners' Bank, its cashier. The bank opened its doors October 1, 1890, and its first day's business was a good index of the popularity of its officers. Its deposits on the first day footed up \$56,783.74. On December 31, 1899, they had increased to \$148,394.42.

To give an idea of Joplin's growth, in a financial way, during the decade we cite the following: On December 31, 1889, the three banks of Joplin had on deposit \$375,320.68; the last offered statement for 1899 showed that the six banks had on hand, \$2,307,384.18.

Joplin's financial institutions were well managed and although many banks all over the country failed during the panic of 1893, no Joplin depositor lost a penny and the four banks then doing business in the city grew and prospered. The Interstate Bank, organized by George A. Case, formerly of the Bank of Joplin, was organized in 1898 and enjoyed a good patronage.

One of the notable features of the Joplin banks was the manner in which they handled the several issues of city and school bonds. In the issue of bonds it is customary to specify in the bond some time after which the paper may be redeemed by the city or school district. The usual time is ten years and bonds that are put on the market and thus sold, cannot be taken up until the option mentioned expires. As soon as bonds are issued, a tax levy is made to redeem them. This accumulates until the time they can be taken up, and the fund thus lies idle in the treasury. The Joplin bank began in the 'nineties the custom of buying these several city issues at par and giving the city or school district the right to redeem them at will, and as soon as enough money was in the treasury to pay one of the bonds it was paid off and the interest stopped. In this way the banks of Joplin saved the taxpayer thousands of dollars in interest and at the same time strengthened the credit of the city.

#### JOPLIN RECOVERS FROM THE PANIC OF '93

By 1895 Joplin had fully recovered from the effects of the panic of '93 and began to take on signs of renewed activity, and on January 1, 1896, there was not a single vacant business house from First to Fourteenth streets on Main. The year 1897 was exceptionally good, in a business way, and in 1898 jack began to rise and as it steadily advanced in price a boom came on with all of its fury. From January 1, 1898, to

January 1, 1900, fully ten thousand people came to Joplin and the scenes of the early 'seventies were repeated—that is, in the shortage of houses for the rapidly increasing population. Real estate doubled in value and houses were built and put on the market with great rapidity. The houses were, however, good substantial buildings and modern and up-to-date, save a few hastily constructed buildings, which were used as rooming houses.

#### SOUTH JOPLIN

South Joplin grew very rapidly during the early part of the decade and many improvements were made, prominent among them being the building of Freeman's foundry and the Inland Lead & Zinc Factory. This section of the city in a most amazingly short time became not only a busy mart, but one of the most beautiful parts of the city. The corn fields and prairies which but a few years before had met the traveler's eye gave way to graveled streets, sidewalks, trees, flower beds, pleasant homes and beautiful lawns.

Much of these improvements were due to the efforts of the South Joplin Improvement Club, organized in February, 1892, with J. W. Freeman as president and Lambert Wilstead as secretary. This club had a membership of fifty and its meetings were both interesting and instructive. Public questions of interest were discussed and plans for the improvement of South Joplin were considered. Every man was a booster and a firm confidence in the future of the South Town was the most conspicuous feature of his conversation. The people were urged to own their homes, and it might be added as an item of interest that in 1893 the deputy county assessor who made the lists for Joplin reported that 65 per cent of the people of South Joplin were actual owners of their homesteads.

#### JOPLIN SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT

At the session of the legislature of 1895 there was passed an act which is commonly called the Hudson law, which provided a means of building a system of roads and highways. The main provisions of this law are that any district having within it a city of the second or third class, eight miles square, may by vote of the people form a special road district to be managed by three commissioners appointed by the council and county judges, and to serve without pay. Such board has full control over the public roads in the district and can build roads outside within a limit of fifteen miles, provided liberal donations for this work are offered.

The revenue is derived from saloon licenses, one-half of the county and one-fourth of the city saloon license going into the road fund; from a poll tax levied on the able bodied citizens living in the district, but outside the city limits, and from donations. The total revenue of the Joplin special road district received up to August 1, 1911, totaled \$450,423.89.

This sum has been spent in building and keeping in repair the roads in the district and those leading into Joplin. The road material, or

macadam, consists of the tailings from the lead and zinc mines of the district, and costs from two hundred dollars to six hundred dollars per mile according to the distance of the haul. Of total expenditures eighty-eight per cent went for labor, nine per cent for material bought, tools, tiling, etc., including \$1,000 for oiling some of the leading roads during 1909 and 1910, and only three per cent for administration, including supervisors' wages, surveying, stationery, clerical help, etc. For repair and maintenance, \$87,000 was paid out. The oiling, it is expected, will cut down this expense materially. Total expenses per



COUNTRY ROAD NORTH OF JOPLIN. BUILT BY THE JOPLIN SPECIAL ROAD DISTRICT

mile, including everything, \$3,177; first cost, leaving out maintenance, \$2,555.

At a special election held May 5, 1896, the old Galena township road district was disorganized and the Joplin special road district created. The following were named as the first commissioners: President, Jas. A. Turk; secretary, Chris. Guengerich and treasurer, T. W. Cunningham. Messrs. Guengerich and Cunningham have been connected with the road board from its organization until the present. Mr. Turk resigned from the board in 1896 and was succeeded by A. J. Vanal, who served as president in 1899. Mr. Vanal was succeeded in that year by Allen Dixon, now associate justice of the county court. Charles Schifferdicker, the present president of the road commission, was appointed in 1902 and has served the district continuously from then to now.



The first road built by the road district was an extension of West Thirteenth street to Central City, then a mining camp of a thousand people in all of its glory. During the fifteen years the district has been organized the commission has built one hundred and forty miles of splendid macadamized road, besides keeping the old road beds in repair. In construction, the county roads leading into Joplin are second to none in the state.

Rice Hunt, the superintendent of construction, is one of the busiest men in the county, employing from twenty to fifty men at road building and repairing those already built, and at short intervals going over the entire system to note where repairs are needed; also to observe which materials make the best and most durable roads.

The three commissioners have given much of their valuable time to the city and have built up a most excellent system of roads. These three men take as much pride in the road construction as they do in their private affairs, and frequently go out on the county thoroughfares, inspecting the work of construction and noting the general condition of the system. The public generally, who are not acquainted with the private lives of these three men, cannot appreciate the amount of time and the money that they have expended in building up and keeping in condition, the highways leading into Joplin. The road commissioners hold a weekly meeting each Monday afternoon.

#### JOPLIN ELECTRIC RAILWAY

In 1890 Henry Newman, of the Joplin National Bank, and a number of capitalists, organized a company and built an electric railway in Joplin. The line originally extended from College Hill in East Joplin to Tenth street on Main. The first car was run over the line December 5, 1890, and C. H. Belden was the first superintendent of the road.

The line was shortly after extended to Blendville, running south on Maine to Nineteenth, west on Nineteenth to Byers, south to Twenty-first street, thence west to Murphy and south to Twenty-sixth. The line was completed August 21, 1891. This line was of great benefit to Joplin, as it brought Blendville, then a thriving suburb, in closer touch with the main town, and as their business and social interests came to be identical, the two towns grew together. In 1892 Blendville was annexed to Joplin and now, excepting to old-time citizens, the former is only a name, for today, the city is built up solidly on the north and east and all trace of a dividing line has disappeared. The Joplin Electric was bought by the Southwestern Missouri Electric Railway Company in 1896 and is now a part of the great interurban system.

#### CUNNINGHAM'S GROVE BECOMES A CITY PARK

On July 5, 1898, T. W. Cunningham, then mayor of Joplin, gave to the city for a public park a beautiful seven-acre tract of land known as Cunningham's Grove. The splendid gift was accepted by the city and steps taken to make it a place second to no park in the state.



Further mention of the park will be made in our article on "Parks of 1900-10."

#### THE "JOPLIN DAILY GLOBE"

During the first McKinley-Bryan campaign, when the silver question was the great issue of the hour, a new paper came into existence to champion the cause of the silver plumed knight from the Platte, the *Joplin Daily Globe*.

In May, 1896, Messrs. L. C. McCarn, now the editor of the *Morning Tribune*, Frank Tew, late of Kansas City, and O. P. Meloy, now president of the Joplin Printing Company, came to Joplin and started a job printing office. Each of these gentlemen was an ardent champion of silver. At that time the *Joplin Daily Herald*, the Democratic paper, was edited by W. F. Snyder, who leaned toward the gold standard and, as a result, did not enthusiastically support the Democratic platform. During June and July, 1896, much political history was made and, shortly following the nomination of Mr. Bryan, Messrs. McCarn, Tew and Meloy started the *Joplin Daily Globe* and, on account of the intense excitement that existed, it sprang into great popularity with the Democrats of the city. Further mention of the *Globe* will be made in our chapter on the last decade.

#### THE JOPLIN TELEPHONE COMPANY

The Joplin Telephone Company was organized in 1894, largely through the efforts of Z. A. Lawdermilk, and was equipped and put into operation in 1895. The company at once became very popular and enjoyed a large patronage. The Joplin Telephone Company is now a part of great Home Telephone which operates in almost every city, town and hamlet of Jasper county.

#### REDELL'S DEEP WELL

In 1897 George H. Redell decided to drill for water and employed P. L. Crossman, the deep mine driller, to sink for him a deep well. The well was sunk to a depth of 1,400 feet, where a fine body of water was drilled into and the well at once became a matter of great pride to Joplin, for it demonstrated the fact that should at any time it become necessary to abandon Shoal Creek as a source of supply, an abundance of pure crystal water was within reach.

#### VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S TOURNAMENTS

The Southwestern Firemen's tournament was held in Joplin, June 9-11, 1891, and was a splendid success. Three thousand dollars was given away in prizes, and the attendance of firemen and visitors gave the city a holiday appearance.

The parade was a grand affair, 1,668 firemen being in the line of march, including Carterville companies from Ottawa, Ft. Scott, Pittsburg, Columbus, Rich Hill, Springfield, Ft. Smith, Carrollton, Lexington, Carthage, Carterville, Webb City, Galena, and Joplin, besides the Veteran Firemen's associations from St. Louis and Kansas City.

In the prize races the following companies were winners: In the 100-yard race, of the eleven entries, Nevada captured first prize, Carthage second and Pittsburg third.

In the championship race—200-yard run, lay line of hose and throw water—there were twenty-two entries, and the following were the prize winners: (1) Central Hose, Joplin, time 27½ seconds; (2) Payton Hose, Joplin, time 30 seconds; (3) Carterville Company No. 1, and Regan Hose Company of Carthage, tied for third place each, making the run in 31 seconds.

In the hook and ladder contest, Fort Scott won first money and Nevada second.

At the Volunteer Firemen's tournament at Springfield the Central Hose Company of Joplin lowered its record, winning first place by making the run in 23:45 seconds. Joplin was very proud of its volunteer department.

#### THE PAID DEPARTMENT

In 1884 the City Council established the Paid fire department, and Aaron Haughton, the chief of the old volunteer department, became the first head of the new organization.

The first members of the Paid department were: W. F. Griffith, Frank Zellars, Henry Davis, Charles Sparling and Jos. Dunkle. Frank Zellars is still a member of the department and has twice served the city as chief. At the present writing he is its assistant chief.

A. Haughton remained at the head of the department until 1897, when he was succeeded by Bracken Wilson. Mr. Haughton was a great organizer and made the Joplin Paid department second to none in the state.

#### THE TOURNAMENT OF 1897

The Southwestern Missouri Firemen's Association again held its annual meeting in Joplin, June 12-18, 1897, and although Joplin, Carthage, Springfield and other large cities had organized paid departments and necessarily cut down the number of volunteer companies, the attendance was large and the meeting a success.

One of the notable features of the parade was the Carthage Veteran Firemen's Association. In the line were Capt. F. B. Tuttle, Mose Block, Thomas Garland, Charles Kesswetter, Thomas N. Davey, George Thomas, George M. Merriek, Charles Hubb, C. B. Wood and John Brounsell, who were members of Carthage's first fire department in 1872 and helped pull the old Babcock fire engine, during the seventies.

In the championship contest, the honors were won by the Free-

man's Volunteer Hose Company of South Joplin, the time being 24:35. Webb City, their closest competitor (ten companies entering the contest), made the run in 25:15, the difference being a trifle over a second.

#### BLENDVILLE

In 1876 a good paying lead mine was opened on the Cox land, then two and a half miles southwest of the main part of town and the little settlement which grew up around these mines was called "Cox diggings." The county school district that was organized was called the Cox Diggings schools and ran along like other county school districts, with its occasional spelling match and literary society, until 1890, when a great change came over the little settlement and in less than six months time transformed the hamlet into a town.

The Empire Zinc Company, which owned a large portion of the land where Cox Diggings was located, began active mining operations in the fall of 1889 and made some phenomenal strikes, their mines being among the best producers in the district. Doctor Carter and Captain Rice organized the Mahaska Company and began developing the land just east of Cox Diggings, and Mrs. M. C. Allen, of Evansville, Indiana (Joplin's first "mining queen"), and the Snyder Brothers developed, with great success, the land to the west. July 1, 1890, saw Cox Diggings a live town of not less than 1,500, with some twenty stores, and which, by common consent, was called Blendville. This, on account of the vast quantities of "jack" being taken from the ground, seemed a more appropriate name than Cox Diggings. The main street was built along either side of the section line road, now known as Twenty-sixth street, and called by the citizens Stump avenue. The houses for the most part were south of the main thoroughfare. The eighty acres, now comprising the residence portion of Blendville, was then included in T. W. Cunningham's farm.

During the early nineties and before the extension of the city limits to the south, Blendville was a real live wire. The county court appointed a justice of the peace for the place, J. W. Napier, and two deputy constables were kept busy. In 1892, T. W. Cunningham did a great thing for Blendville and her people. He laid out his eighty-acre farm into town lots and put them on the market at a reasonable figure and in reach of the miners, selling them on long time and assisting those unable to build homes to do so. He gave lots for three churches—and also donated twelve lots for a school site and here a twelve-room brick building now stands as a monument to his forethought and generosity.

To give an idea of Blendville importance we call attention to the following happenings of the nineties:

A beautiful six-room school was built. Three churches were organized and edifices for them built—the Baptists, South Methodists and the Latter Day Saints.

There were organized seven lodges—the Independent Order of Good

Templars, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Woodmen, Red Men and Ladies auxiliaries to the Ancient Order of United Workmen and Woodmen.

During its early day there were numerous business houses. Everything was on the wide-awake order.

In 1890 the Rex Mining Company, composed of E. D. Porter, A. E. Stillwell, Galen Spencer, Henry Newman and others, purchased a tract of one thousand acres of land southeast of the city and began mining operations. The price paid for this land was \$110,000. A thriving camp sprang up which was called Rex City, and was a live suburb of Joplin all during the decade.

#### FIRST SHIPMENT OF ZINC TO EUROPE

February, 1891, the Snyder Brothers, operating at Blendville, sold one thousand tons of zinc to Vivion & Son, of Swansea, Wales. This was reported at the time to be the first exportation of American zinc to Europe. The oar was sacked and it required three trains of thirty cars to carry the zinc to the seaboard. This shipment was of great importance to Jasper county, as it opened a new field for her mining product and enlarged the scope of her mining possibilities.



## CHAPTER XXXIV

### JOPLIN EDUCATIONAL TOPICS

NEW HIGH SCHOOL—SCHOOL DISTRICT ENLARGED—HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI—FIRST ALUMNI BANQUET AND REUNION—ON THE APPROVED LIST—PUBLIC SCHOOL CADET CORPS—COLUMBIAN PARADE—ARBOR DAY, 1893—JOPLIN TEACHERS VISIT KANSAS CITY—MANUAL TRAINING—SCHOOL OFFICIALS (1890-9)—ALUMNI OF HIGH SCHOOL—JOPLIN STUDENTS AT BAIRD COLLEGE—JOPLIN BUSINESS COLLEGE—BEGINNING OF THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT—CLUB WOMEN—THE EMERSON CLUB—1872 BOARD ENTERTAINS 1892 BOARD—OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION.

To give an idea of the growth of the Joplin public school system during the nineties we cite the following: On January 1, 1890, the school district which embraced East Joplin, Lone Elm and West Joplin had a teaching force of twenty-five. On December 31, 1899, seventy instructors were employed.

#### NEW HIGH SCHOOL

The building boom which came on following the adoption of the new charter, including the construction of sidewalks, sewer system, etc., was at its height, January 1, 1890, and the schools were so crowded that half-day sessions were resorted to in eleven of the twenty-four rooms occupied. Shortly after the opening of the session in September, 1889, it was apparent that more school rooms were needed and \$30,000 was voted for school improvements, including a new ward and high school building combined, which was erected at Fourth street and Jackson avenue. The Jackson school, when first built, was a three story brick structure, the third story of which consisted of two study rooms, and an auditorium which was used for the high school. The principal's room on the second floor was used as the superintendent's office. The Jackson High School was formally dedicated December 12, 1890, Maj. J. B. Merwin, of St. Louis, editor of the *North American Journal of Education*, delivering the principal address of the evening.

In 1892 it became necessary to build again and \$20,000 were voted for ward-school improvements—additions being made to South Joplin (now the Franklin School), East Joplin, Byersville and North Heights (now Columbia). The north half of the present high school was built in 1896.

## SCHOOL DISTRICT ENLARGED

In 1892 the city extended its limits to embrace Blendville on the south and, at the annual meeting in 1893, the Blendville school district containing some 600 children of school age, and the Parr Hill district embracing the southeastern portion of the enlarged city, with a two-room well organized school—both voted to unite with the city district. Following the addition of this new territory the original six rooms of the beautiful Alcott school were built.

In order that the reader may have an idea of the public educational system during the decade, we mention here a few of the school happenings which occurred during that period:

On June 1, 1891, the census covering the school districts of Joplin, Blendville and Parr Hill showed the following: Joplin, 3,528; Blendville, 539; Parr Hill, 215. Total, 4,282.

## HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

On February 22, 1890, the members of the classes which had graduated in 1887, 1888 and 1889 met and formed a permanent organization, the following being elected the officers of the Alumni Association for the year 1890: President, W. A. Nickel, class of '87; vice-presidents, Misses Ida Calfee ('87), Blanche George ('88), and Stella Taylor ('88); secretary, Blanche Sergeant ('87); treasurer, Eunice Timmons ('88).

## THE FIRST ALUMNI BANQUET AND REUNION

The first reunion and banquet of the alumni was held at the Keystone Hotel, at the close of the school year 1894, when that body formally welcomed the class of '94 into the organization. The affair was a brilliant success. F. T. Snapp was the master of ceremonies and as a toastmaster was a success, and by his witty little speeches in introducing the several speakers, kept everyone in the very best of humor.

The following was the program: "Welcome to the Class of '94," W. A. Nickel; response, R. N. Graham; "History of the Alumni," Mrs. Emma Price; "Recollections," Miss Alice Q. Haven; original musical selection, Miss Ira Joe Grant; recitation, Miss Maude Stewart; "The Present and Future of the High School," Principal Vawter; "The Next Thing," Rev. J. J. Martin.

These banquets and receptions so happily commenced were continued through the nineties.

## PLACED ON THE APPROVED LIST

On March 9, 1890, Supt. R. D. Shannon received a letter from President Jesse, of the State University, stating that the state inspector of high schools had approved the Joplin High School as meeting the requirements of a standard school and that the faculty of the

university, acting on his recommendation, had placed that institution on the list of schools whose graduates would be admitted to the Freshmen class of the State University without examination.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL CADET CORPS

In 1891, at the suggestion of O. B. Hamlin, a member of the Board of Education, a Cadet Corps was organized and placed in charge of



PUBLIC SCHOOL CADET

Joel T. Livingston, principal of the Byersville school, as commandant, with George H. Shaw, supervising architect and second sergeant, Joplin Light Infantry, and John W. Gray, principal of the Lone Elm school and late sergeant Carthage Light Guards, as captains of the two companies that were organized. Fred W. Parks, now chief clerk in the office of Cornelius Roach, secretary of state, then a young man just out of a military school, acted as adjutant. The corps consisted of eighty boys belonging to the seventh and eighth grades and the freshmen year in the high school.

For the purpose of procuring uniforms an entertainment was given at the Haven Opera House and the beautiful play of "Pygmalion and Galatea" was presented to a large audience. Emmet King, then an actor residing in Joplin, and who has since won great fame before the foot lights, and as a story writer, played the part of Pygmalion, and Mrs. Victor Brown of Griffin, Georgia, a most beautiful woman and

an elocutionist of note, who was visiting in the city, represented Galatea. The entertainment netted enough money to buy the cloth for uniforms for the entire corps, and the mothers of the boys, together with a number of the lady teachers, under the direction of Mrs. Lola Spear, met one day and cut out and made the uniforms which were of the zouave type so popular in that day.

The corps made its first public appearance August 26, 1891, when, on the invitation of O. P. Morton Post No. 14, G. A. R., it accompanied the old soldiers to Baxter Springs to the big reunion acting as escort to the old veterans. The exhibition drill which they gave on the parade ground of Camp Weldy won for them a hearty round of applause. The Cadets maintained their organization until the middle nineties, during which time they participated in a number of public celebrations, having been reviewed by Gov. Francis on the occasion of one of his official visits to Joplin—the meeting of the Missouri Columbian World's Fair Commission.

The corps also made a number of out-of-town trips, one of the most enjoyable to Pittsburg, Kansas, accompanying the teachers of Joplin to a friendly visit to the Southeastern Kansas Teachers Association in session at that place.

#### COLUMBIAN PARADE

The four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus was appropriately observed in the public schools of Joplin, the feature of the day being a parade of the children of all the grades—from the primary to the eighth, and the high school pupils. The



JOPLIN SCHOOL CHILDREN'S PARADE, COLUMBUS DAY, 1892

parade was participated in by 2,600 pupils, and it was a most imposing sight. Every child carried a small United States flag and also each wore a souvenir badge on which was printed a picture of Columbus. Under the head of the great discoverer was the motto of the United



States and over it the national eagle. The pupils were assembled by grades at the Central school and the line of march was down Main to Fourth and west to the Jackson school, where the exercises were had.

The exercises were concluded in the evening at the Club Theater by a spectacular production representing different historic happenings and events in American history, and the rise of English liberty. The characters in the extravaganza were chosen from the teachers and pupils, over two hundred taking part in the several historic sketches.

The *Joplin Daily Herald*, in speaking of the affair, said: "The entertainment, as a school creation and production was, without exception, the most enjoyable, meritorious, and successful ever given in Joplin. In every one of the historic sketches there was obvious careful preparation, studied effect, tasteful arrangement and almost perfect execution—all conspiring to make the whole a charming divertisement from the usual school entertainment."

The following were some of the historic sketches and spectacular productions presented:

Columbus conceives the idea that the world is round and determines to make the voyage to the west across the Atlantic.

Columbus on his triumphant return to Spain and his presentation to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella.

"The works and deeds of Columbus still live."

"The past, present and future of national liberty."

The above was an imaginary spectacular extravaganza in which were introduced many of the historic events and characters leading up to the establishment of American liberty.

#### ARBOR DAY, 1893

April 7th, Arbor Day, was generally observed in Joplin and at all of the schools appropriate exercises were held, trees and shrubs were planted and the pupils taught the use and care of trees.

At the Jackson school a tree was planted and christened "Tennyson." Dick Graham delivered the christening oration. Miss Lillian King read a charming essay on "Historic Trees and Forest Products," and Principal S. A. Underwood delivered an interesting talk on "Tree Planting."

At the Franklin school a very large number of patrons assembled to witness the exercises, over one hundred visitors being present. Each of the six rooms planted a tree, after which the visitors were invited into the school to inspect the display of school work.

The six trees planted by the Franklin school were named Ferdinand, Isabella, W. E. Coleman (the father of Arbor day in Missouri), George Washington, Columbus, and Gen. George A. Custer.

At the Columbia school four trees were planted and named Coleman, Washington, Columbia and Whittier. Every one present participated in the planting, placing a shovelful of dirt around the trees.

At East Joplin, Byersville and Central trees were planted and the yards cleaned up.

#### JOPLIN TEACHERS VISIT KANSAS CITY

In February, 1894, at the suggestion of Superintendent S. A. Underwood, the entire corps of teachers obtained a two days' leave of absence and visited the schools of Kansas City. The visitation was of great benefit to the schools, and everyone of the sixty-four teachers came home filled with new ideas and enthusiasm for a greater and better school system.

#### MANUAL TRAINING

Manual training was introduced into the high school in 1898 and at once became very popular, the Joplin exhibit of mechanical work having excited the favorable comment of the citizens of Joplin and educators of surrounding towns who came to see the display.

#### SCHOOL OFFICIALS (1890-9)

We present below a list of the several gentlemen who served the city of Joplin as members of the Board of Education during the decade, the superintendents and principals of the high school, and the graduates from the first class in 1887 to the thirteenth class in 1899:

Members of the Board of Education: R. S. Lanyon, Lee Taylor, C. Schifferdecker, P. L. Swartz and A. H. Waite, April 1, 1890; A. B. McCarty, April 5, 1891; H. Cline, June, 1892; M. L. Downing, J. H. Spencer and H. B. Crossman, April 4, 1893; H. Phelps, April 3, 1894; T. W. Cunningham and E. O. Bartlett, April 2, 1895; J. W. Freeman and C. W. Lyon, April 7, 1896; A. Reynolds and A. C. Blakey, April 6, 1897; C. S. Poole, April 5, 1898; and C. M. DeGraff, 1899.

Superintendents and principals of high school: 1890, R. D. Shannon and S. A. Underwood; 1891, E. T. Ingham and S. A. Underwood; 1892, R. D. Shannon and S. A. Underwood; 1893, R. D. Shannon and S. A. Underwood; 1894, S. A. Underwood and V. L. Vawter; 1895, W. B. Brown and J. D. Ellif; 1896, W. B. Brown and J. D. Ellif; 1897, W. B. Brown and J. D. Ellif; 1898, J. D. Ellif and J. M. Guinn; 1899, J. D. Ellif and J. M. Guinn.

#### ALUMNI OF HIGH SCHOOL

1888—Johanna Becker, Ida Caffee, M. M. Hamilton, Cora Hoyt, Cora Lichliter, Mayme Robinson, Blanche Sergeant, William Lechie, Taylor Snapp, L. L. Lichliter, Roy Lapsley, W. A. Nickell, Ollie P. Simpson.

1889—Corrine Allington, Judith Barner, Irene Faulkener, Blanche George, Iva Grant, Lucy Jenkins, Leela Taylor, Eunice Timmons, Rose Mary Grant, Venona Wootring, James Cox.

1890—Daisy Darby, Alice Duncan, Blanche Elam, Sarah Ellen, Emma Price, Laura Roesch, Jessie Stephenson, C. B. Spencer.

1891—Maude Ells, Alice Haven, Jessie May, Alice Treganza, Sadie Lichliter, Anna McNeal, Maud Neeley, Margaret Ryan, Dora Price, Lizzie Risling, Albert E. Duncan, Eugene Hamilton.

1892—Eula Freeman, Jessie Gardner, Ella Helpenstine, Cora Hollingsworth, Minnie Lambkin, Jennie Maddy, Ora Miller, Eva Price, John Murphy, Cornelia Shannon, Maude Stewart, Lenora Turner, Isabella Wade.

1893—Flo Adams, George Dickenson, Dilno Ells, Minnie Cotton, Mabel Downing, Maude Wright, Dollie Board, Cora McDonald.

1894—Josephine Elam, Erma Roesch, Dick Graham, Callie Leard, Maie Price, Lena Lowry, Lois Whitwell, Marie Klotz, Edith Cotton.

1895—Pearl Kier, Jessie Short, Ella Whitwell, Bertha Greer, Lena Phelps, Aruba Treganza, Clara Paul, Margaret Donnan, John Cotton, Ray Wenrich, Chas. McGarren, Mercer Arnold, Claud Calvin, Ollie Faulkender.

1896—Blanche Trigg, Walter George, Mabel Price, Emily Reeves, Will McAntire.

1897—Gertrude Creller, Roy Calvin, Pearl Campbell, Ethel Davidson, Myrtle Foster, Grace Fones, Lillian Foster, Nellie Fenn, Clar Frye, Ovilla Gardner, Ben Lutman, Oscar Nelson, Louis Ogburn, Imo Price, Bertha Pertusche, Etta Taylor, Elmer Williams, Luna Yale, Susie Maupin, James Broadbent, Laura Adams, Edith Donnan, Sam Thornton, Hugh Claycomb.

1898—Georgia Turk, Jane Paul, Mae Hansel, Maude Frye, Ida Miller, Luella Powell, Bess Turner, Walter Regan, John Hutchinson.

1899—Eccless Greer, Earl Murray, Maggie Davidson, Edna Henrichs, Etta Broadbent, Nell Henley, Lottie Glover, Augusta Radley, Fannie Willim, Lina Stabb, Alvin Hall, Charley Davidson.

#### JOPLIN STUDENTS AT BAIRD COLLEGE

During the early and middle 'nineties quite a number of Joplin young women went to the then celebrated Baird College at Clinton after completing their courses in the public schools. The Joplin girls who went to Baird brought home many laurels and did much toward advertising Joplin as a literary and musical center, as well as a mining metropolis. Misses Lillie Henderson, Bertha McAntire, Charlotte and Jean Gregg and Maude Neeley all won prizes, either for excellence in music, declamation or literary work.

During the fall of 1893 an Interstate collegiate contest between the several colleges of western Missouri and eastern Kansas was arranged, the first one being held at Springfield, and at this meet the Joplin students at Baird carried off all of the honors.

Miss Bertha McAntire won the first prize for declamation, and Miss Charlotte Gregg, the first prize in the singing contest, the three judges

being unanimous in giving the oration and solo work of these two young women first place.

#### JOPLIN BUSINESS COLLEGE

In 1892 Prof. Thomas and W. B. Joiner established the Joplin Business College and it at once became a strong school. Its course of study embraced a full and complete instruction in bookkeeping, business and commercial education and it sent out a well equipped class of students who took responsible positions.

#### BEGINNING OF THE LIBRARY MOVEMENT

In the spring of 1893 a movement was inaugurated to establish a public library in Joplin and this movement grew a little each year until, in 1902, Andrew Carnegie donated to the city the \$50,000 with which the Public Library was built.

The initial meeting of the Joplin Public Library Association—was held in the Young Men's Christian Association rooms in April, 1893, and Hamilton S. Wilks, then a prominent man in Joplin, was elected president. Gen. C. W. Squire was elected vice president; Rev. E. E. Wilkey, secretary, and Chris. Guengerich, treasurer. The following ladies were appointed as the executive committee: Madames W. H. Picher, Clark Craycroft, Henry Weymen, Lola Spear and W. C. Weatherill. A most delightful entertainment was given by the Century Club at which a neat sum was raised and this was the nucleus of the library fund. On August 16th, of same year, a picnic was given on the electric line just north of Castle Rock and this added to the fund. The club women of the city now began a campaign of education for a library, and their efforts were finally realized when the city voted a tax for the support of the enterprise, when the library building was erected. A mention of the public library will be made in the section devoted to the next decade.

#### CLUB WOMEN

The Unity Club mentioned in our notes of the 'eighties continued its organization during the entire 'nineties and was a delightful literary organization.

In 1890 the Century Club, a literary organization of the younger set, was organized, and it is yet a part of the club life of Joplin. The members of this club were drawn from the best families of the city and its meetings were not only symposiums where the best of literary thought was brought out, but social successes as well. This club championed the library movement and assisted in many ways to better the city.

#### THE EMERSON CLUB

The Emerson Club was organized in 1897 and was a prominent factor in club circles for several years. This club fitted up and maintained a beautifully furnished room on West Ninth street and its headquarters were the gathering place of many literary and social functions.



The Redpath, another of the very popular clubs, was organized in 1898; and all of these clubs stood for the highest literary attainment and contained in their membership the best women of the city. We regret that we could not secure a complete list of the officers and members of each of the above, as each was a great factor in the city's social and literary functions and without a mention of which the history of Joplin would be incomplete.

#### 1872 SCHOOL BOARD ENTERTAINS 1892 BOARD

The West Joplin School Board, in 1872, consisted of J. H. McCoy, C. J. G. Workizer and W. M. Carter. In March, 1892, J. H. McCoy, who had left Joplin in the later seventies, returned to Joplin on a visit and took great delight in renewing his old-time friendships. It so happened, on the 30th day of March, he met C. J. G. Workizer and W. M. Carter, with whom he had served on the school board in 1872, and Philip Arnold, who was the first principal of the West Joplin schools. The four spent a happy hour in telling old stories and comparing the schools of the early day with the splendid system of that day. A happy thought came to the four—why should not the Board of '72 entertain the Board of '92 and, to add spice, invite in as many old-timers of the former year as could be gotten together that night? Of course, the spread must be served at Money Makers (Mrs. Gildmachers'). Invitations were hastily sent out and that night thirty people sat down to the splendid supper which Mrs. Gildmacher had prepared. After the feast, reminiscences were exchanged and the party lived over the free and easy days of Joplin's pioneer period.

The following toasts were proposed and responded to:

"The Old and the New School Boards," L. P. Cunningham.

"Joplin Today and Twenty Years Ago," J. W. McAntire.

"Joplin's Schools Twenty Years Ago and Now," Philip Arnold.

"Progress in the Schools in Twenty Years," S. A. Underwood.

"Reminiscences," F. E. Williams.

In addition to the above, every man at the festive board was required to do something in the way of entertainment and the stories that were told and the jokes that were gotten off set everyone wild with laughter.

Those who attended the meeting were J. H. McCoy, formerly of Joplin, but then of Ouray, Colorado; Patrick Murphy, F. E. Williams, S. C. Price, J. W. McAntire, C. B. Revis, Philip Arnold, W. R. Fletcher, D. C. McConey, John Reynolds, W. H. Picher, Monroe Clark, L. P. Cunningham, J. C. Gaston, L. A. Filmore, R. S. Lanyon, H. B. Haskell, Ol Moffet, G. W. Koehler, Gilbert Barbee, Henry Blackwell, D. R. Wenrich, S. A. Underwood, Charles Schifferdecker, L. Risiling, Lee Taylor, P. L. Swartz, E. D. Porter, Peter Schnur, Thomas Connor and Dan Collins.

This gathering led to the organization of the Joplin Old Settlers' Association.

## THE OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION

As a result of the School Board reunion, March 30, 1892, a number of the old settlers met in Major Crayercroft's office early in 1893 and formulated plans for an old settlers' banquet on the anniversary of the gathering above mentioned. In response to the invitation of the committee one hundred and fifteen old-timers called at Major Williams' store and signed the roster and a banquet was arranged to be held at the Joplin Hotel, March 30, 1893. S. C. Price was appointed as toastmaster and presided at the head of the table and after the spread, which did great credit to the hotel management, the following toasts were responded to:

"The County as We Found It," John S. Reynolds.

"Early Birds," Thomas Dolan.

"Primitive Mining," Henry Blackwell.

"Our First Smelter," Pat Murphy.

"The Union of East and West Joplin," John C. Trigg.

"Our First Railway," Jno. H. Taylor.

"A Wide Open Town," responded to by a half-dozen impromptu speakers, who told many side-splitting stories of early Joplin.

"Hose and Hose," W. M. Carter.

"Early Lawyers," W. B. McAntire.

An amusing incident occurred when the extemporaneous talks were being made. Thomas Connor was called and with due modesty jumped out of the window and escaped making a speech. Before the adjournment a committee, consisting of S. C. Henderson, W. M. Carter, L. A. Filmore, Charles Schifferdecker, E. D. Porter and W. B. McAntire, were appointed to draft a constitution and recommend permanent officers.

At a meeting at the court house in March, 1894, the committee reported the following organization: President, F. E. Williams; first vice president, W. M. Carter; second vice president, L. A. Filmore; third vice president, Jno. S. Reynolds; fourth vice president, Clark Crayercroft; fifth vice president, Jno. H. Taylor; secretary, Joel T. Livingston; assistant secretary, G. W. Koehler; treasurer, W. B. Halyard.

Eligibility to membership was fixed at 1876 and prior—dates of coming to Joplin. An annual banquet was had each succeeding year until 1905. The last banquet will be mentioned in a chapter covering the following decade.

The banquet in 1894 was a very enjoyable occasion and was held at the Keystone Hotel. Clark Crayercroft, the prince of after-dinner talkers, was toast master and the following after-dinner talks were made:

"Early Reminiscences," W. M. Carter.

"Hard Times," L. P. Cunningham.

"Joplin as a Metropolis," J. W. McAntire.

"The Joplin Miner," Thos. Dolan.

"The City That Jack Built," D. K. Wenrich.

W. M. Carter became the president of the Association in 1896 and continued so until his death in 1905. G. W. Koehler was elected secretary in 1895 and served until the last meeting.

We present here the partial list of the Old Settlers Association, which we take from the newspaper account of the several reunions had. We regret that we were unable to secure a copy of the original roll.

List of members: D. K. Wenrich, E. H. Simpson, J. N. Dunagan, J. S. Reynolds, A. H. Brewer, E. Whipple, E. P. Barr, Ed. Brown, Thomas Dolan, Wm. M. Carter, L. A. Short, J. W. McAntire, John Henrichs, Clark Craycroft, Harmon Cline, G. W. Koehler, Joel T. Livingston, W. B. McAntire, R. M. Roberts, Peter Schmur, Jerome C. Burgess, A. Campbell, E. F. Botkin, W. H. Warren, F. E. Williams, Ira Creech, C. W. Clover, Jess W. Brown, H. J. Blackwell, J. C. Faulkender, S. A. Underwood, L. Riseling, D. C. McConey, C. Schifferdecker, Wm. M. Quick, A. Haughton, A. F. Donnan, John Roech, J. C. Gaston, Fred Dufflemeyer, J. B. Sergeant, P. L. Swartz, L. A. Fillmore, Frank Bentley, S. A. Jagers, O. H. Picher, W. H. Fairbanks, John Allington, Chas. J. G. Workizer, C. W. Dykeman, S. C. Price, J. A. Hewitt, W. S. Paul, John Reinmiller, C. B. Goodwin, Sam'l W. Reynolds, W. T. Feazell, W. B. Halyard, J. J. Breazeale, Geo. Orear, H. C. Sutton, Gib Barbee, John H. Stephens, Nathan U. Wilson, J. M. Leonard, Williams Watson, John C. Trigg, J. E. Jones, S. L. Miller, R. D. Fallis, C. Sparlin, Con Lucy, E. D. Pickett, S. A. Parks, Thos. A. Heathwood, P. Quinn, G. O. Boncher, C. Geltz, L. L. McGavran, E. R. Moffet, Jr., S. O. Eels, J. O. Herron, W. F. Griffith, G. W. Keller, J. J. Cofer, J. M. Howard, Chas. Moore, V. H. Board, E. W. Beach, P. L. Crossman, Thos. Connor, N. Zeutner, John Manning, W. Humes, E. Zelleken, W. Beller, Alfred Reynolds, Sam'l Landauer, D. W. Cowan, G. P. Coley, J. F. Wise, Monroe Clark, John J. Murphy, C. W. Babst, John W. Calvin, A. B. McCarty, Dr. Jasper Backwell, Z. A. Norris, W. H. Picher, E. O. Bartlett, J. B. McCurdy, Jno. F. Wagner, E. D. Porter, F. T. Creller, C. C. Wheeler, Thos. Field, A. B. McKee, Wm. Leffen, Barney Bristow, E. B. Leonard, John Bauer, L. C. McCarty, E. T. Molyneux, John H. Taylor, Phil Boss, H. L. Chickering, E. F. Martin, O. E. Miles, A. P. Hoyt, Thomas Diehel, J. W. Moore, Ples Whitwell, J. B. Morgan, O. R. Moffet, D. M. Page, Walker Trigg, W. H. Calfee, T. C. Malloy, J. C. Burress, W. E. Johnson, J. C. Miller, Alfred Reynolds, Calvin Nickell, Dr. F. D. Owen, J. B. Quinn, John Immel, W. G. Sergeant, W. Watkins, L. P. Cunningham, Louis F. Peters, Ben. F. Morris, J. A. Thurman, Henry Weymann, I. N. Vaughn, E. Webster, E. N. Perry, H. Clippenger, Phil. Pfenning, S. W. Beall, Chas. G. Sellars, Fred Sellers, Anson B. Hamlin, S. C. Henderson, Tom Kinnmouth, Wm. Thurman, W. D. McCracken.

## CHAPTER XXXV

### SOCIAL, BENEVOLENT AND CHARITABLE

THE MASONS—KNIGHTS TEMPLAR—IN HONOR OF JOHN GILLIS—A. O. U. W. 4TH OF JULY, 1894—CANTON LINCOLN No. 17, PARTRIARCHS MILITANT—THE REBEKAHS—THE WOODMEN—THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—M. W. A. LOG ROLLING—THE GERMANIA SOCIETY—FIRST ELKS STREET FAIR—YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—ENTERTAINS THE STATE Y. M. C. A. CONVENTION—THE JOPLIN CHARITABLE UNION—POTATO DAY—A NOVEL ENTERTAINMENT—THE JOPLIN CHILDREN'S HOME.

Among the fraternities which were organized in Joplin during the decade were the Woodmen, Select Friends, Knights and Ladies of Security, Maccabees, United Commercial Travelers, Knights of Columbus, Elks and many other orders which, with the old fraternities already established, did a grand and noble work and brought the men and women of the city that "Jack Built," almost to the threshold of the "golden age of fraternity."

We mention here a few of the happenings which stood out as notable events in the fraternal life of the city.

#### THE MASONS

Among the Masonic events which stand out during the early 'nineties was the excursion to Siloam Springs on St. John's day, June 24, 1892. The two Masonic lodges, together with the Star and their families, visited Siloam Springs, Arkansas, St. John's day of 1892. A round trip of one dollar was made and ten coaches were packed. The day was delightfully spent and long remembered.

In 1894 the several Masonic bodies assembled at Sulphur Springs and a most delightful time was had.

The Eastern Star was exceedingly popular during the decade and no Masonic reception was complete without the assistance of this auxiliary. Mrs. Mamie Fletcher, of the Joplin Star, was honored by the State Grand Lodge by an election to the presidency in 1896 and as the grand worthy matron she made a most excellent officer. The Grand Chapter met in Joplin in 1897 and was an event in the fraternal history of the city.

February 7, 1897, was the twenty-first anniversary of the removal of Medoe, now Joplin Lodge No. 335, A. F. & A. M., to Joplin, and the event was duly celebrated by an open meeting and banquet to which



Fellowship Lodge and the Eastern Star were invited. Among those who were present at the banquet was Lee Taylor, who was present at the first meeting of the lodge in East Joplin, February 21, 1876.

After an hour's program at the hall the lodge, with their guests, adjourned to the Crossman hall, where a superb banquet was served, covers being laid for two hundred.

S. A. Underwood, Harmon Cline and Dr. Kelso, of Joplin Lodge and Clark Craycroft and Jno. S. Reynolds, of Fellowship Lodge, were among the speakers who responded to toasts.

#### KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Ascension Commandery No. 39, Knights Templar, attended all three of the triennial conclaves held during the nineties—at Denver in 1892, Boston in 1895, and at Pittsburgh in 1898. The conclave at Boston was a very enjoyable one, the Knights from Jasper county being the guests of Beverly Commandery, Beverly, Massachusetts, of which organization Col. D. A. Preston, formerly of Joplin, was a member. The Beverly Commandery entertained the Jasper county contingent with a clam bake and this novel feast was a rare treat to the people from Missouri.

#### IN HONOR OF JOHN GILLIS

At the meeting of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, in 1897, John Gillis, of Ascension Commandery, was chosen grand commander—a most distinguished honor for Jasper county—and on October 26th, the Knights from Joplin, Webb City, Neosho and Galena, entertained in honor of their genial, whole-souled son of bonny Scotland.

The banquet, which concluded the evening's entertainment, was, in Masonic circles, the event of the year, and was had at the Keystone Hotel. Eighty-one Knights, with their lady friends, gathered around the festive board. The landscape program gotten out for the occasion bore on the front cover, with the Knight Templar emblems, a splendid likeness of Captain Gillis in colors. The front page of the program bore the inscription: "Ascension Commandery No. 39, Joplin, Missouri. Complimentary to Right Eminent Commander John Gillis, Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Missouri."

After the supper, which did great credit to the management of the hotel, the following program was carried out:

"Welcome the Coming—God Speed the Parting Guest;" response by R. E. Sir Knight John Gillis, grand commander.

"Christian Knighthood—Let Brotherly Love and Knightly Courtesy Continue;" response Eminent Commander C. Woods, grand warden, and president Scarret College.

"Fraternity—Liberty is Right, Equality is Fact, Fraternity is Duty;" response Sir Knight A. Maas, Neosho.

"Friendship—We Have Been Friends Together in Sunshine and in Shade;" response Sir Knight E. B. Schimerhorn, Galena, Kansas.

“Ladies—Man was made when nature was but an apprentice, woman, when she was a skilful mistress of her art;” response Eminent Knight Clark Craycroft, Joplin.

Maj. F. E. Williams was toast master and never appeared to better advantage than on this occasion. His ease and grace as a presiding officer and his pleasant address, mingled with an occasional witticism rounded off the several after-dinner talks and sent everyone home happy.

#### A. O. U. W.—4TH OF JULY, 1894

The combined Ancient Order of United Woodmen lodges of Joplin celebrated the 4th of July, 1894, at Cunningham's grove, and the occasion was one of the old fashioned celebrations of the father. Philip Arnold read to an attentive audience the Declaration of Independence and a number of patriotic addresses were given, pointing out the duties of citizenship. After the luncheon, which was an old fashioned basket picnic dinner, the people indulged in the pastimes of the pioneer days. Races were run, there was the climbing of the greased pole and the chase after the greased pig. A dancing platform added to the pleasure, and here the dignified city people did all sorts of stunts—one man, a prominent banker, waltzing around the floor holding gracefully his partner's arm and eating a big ham sandwich, all at the same time. It was a day of fun and frolic.

#### CANTON LINCOLN NO. 17, PATRIARCHS MILITANT

Canton Lincoln covered itself all over with glory during the early nineties, and not only reflected great credit on the Odd Fellows, but on Joplin as well. At Butler, April 26, 1891, it won the first prize for the best drilled canton, attending the natal day celebration at that place and winning from Kansas City, Fort Scott and Lamar.

On November 3rd and 4th, at the annual encampment of the First Regiment, First Brigade, Patriarchs Militant, I. O. O. F., which was held at Lamar, it again won the first prize, defeating Butler, Springfield and Fort Scott.

In St. Louis, at the meeting of the Sovereign Grand Lodge in 1891, the canton was especially honored, receiving honorable mention in the grand parade for the splendid appearance it made and, as a special mark of distinction, being honored by the Sovereign Grand Lodge with an invitation to act as its escort. The following were the members who escorted the Sovereign body from headquarters at the Planters hotel to the place of meeting: Capt. R. A. Spear, John James Falcon Weir, A. C. Barr, George A. Cochrane, E. J. Foreman, A. J. Morton, W. E. Morgan, J. W. McAntire, Dr. M. F. Balsley, John Hendricks, E. W. Beach, Fred Sellers, E. Gaede, William Chapin, Sid Hire, E. D. Zelliken, William Beller, G. R. Lavery, A. Stewart, Ben Carlisle, Frank Donnan, W. H. Kettinger, Jasper Vancil, A. Haughton, M. Scherl, M. Klotz, Charles Schoenherr, A. P. Clark, J. E. Currah, A. R. Jones, Williams Fuller and Maj. G. W. Koehler.

In the world's contest Canton Lincoln won the third prize, \$250. At the meeting of the Sovereign Lodge at Dallas in 1896 the Canton took second prize.

Canton Lincoln, perhaps more than any other semi-military organization, has kept Joplin in the eyes of the public, for, unlike most of the other orders which have had those periods of success and for a time have been in public favor, it has never disbanded, but has from its time of organization to now been a prominent factor in Joplin's fraternal life.

#### THE REBEKAHS

One of the first lady's lodges which was organized in Joplin was the Degree of Rebekah. The organization was effected April 7, 1891, the initiatory work being performed by the Carterville lodge, which came over to Joplin fifty strong and assisted, in a most impressive way, the instituting officer. The following were the first officers of the lodge: Mrs. Lola Dawson, noble grand; Mrs. S. J. Hire, vice grand; Miss Georgia Johnson, secretary; Miss Maggie Danford, financier; Mrs. J. B. Shaw, treasurer. At the conclusion of the work the members of the new lodge and the visiting teams sat down to a tempting banquet.

#### THE WOODMEN

We make mention here of Joplin Camp, No. 3039, M. W. A., for two reasons—first, because of its phenomenal growth and second, on account of its bringing to the city the log-rolling of August 10, '98, which up to that time was the largest gathering of its kind Joplin had ever witnessed. The lodge was instituted in August, 1895, with seventeen members, and grew very rapidly. In September, 1897, the camp clerk announced that the lodge had passed the hundred mark and the event was duly celebrated on October 28th with a social session and banquet which were attended by the lodge and a hundred invited guests. John Gmeiner was the master of ceremonies, and in the jovial manner for which he is noted made the evening one continual round of pleasure. Nearly every one of the hundred guests came into the camp and before the close of the year its membership had almost reached the two hundred point. At the time of the log rolling Joplin Camp had grown to 600 and, as its members marched down Main street in the big parade they resembled a regiment of soldiers passing in review before the commander-in-chief. W. A. Northcott, then head counselor of the Woodmen, was the guest of Joplin Camp at the log rolling.

#### THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

On January 15, 1892, Mineral Lodge, No. 330, was organized at the Knights of Pythias hall, and at once became a very popular lodge. In 1898 G. A. Weyman built, at the corner of Seventh and Main streets, a three-story business block, leaving the third floor to the Odd Fellows and

arranging it especially for lodge purposes. The hall was dedicated April 15, 1898, and from then until 1911, when the county leased the second and third floors for a temporary court house, it was one of the most popular halls in the city.

#### THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Joplin Lodge, No. 40, Knights of Pythias, continued through the nineties to be the social organization of the city. Their hall was the 3rd floor of the Burz (now the Worth) building, Fourth and Main streets. It was at that day the most elegantly furnished hall in the city and here a great many social functions occurred, as well as lodge meetings.

Joplin Division, No. 40, U. R. K. P., was organized in June, 1892, with G. K. Davidson, then city treasurer, as captain. The Joplin Division was very popular, containing some of the best young business men of the day. It was twice a prize winner in a drill contest, and took part in the biennial encampments at both Kansas City and Washington.

#### M. W. A. LOG ROLLING

On August 10, 1898, Joplin was literally packed and jammed with the Modern Woodmen and their friends, who came to attend the Missouri-Kansas Log Rolling Association, the lowest estimate of the crowd being 35,000. The Kansas City Southern brought 3,000 people to Joplin; the Missouri Pacific and Frisco Interurban lines both brought thousands and the Memphis special from Fort Scott contributed 2,300. The electric line had the biggest day's business up to that time reported and the special from Kansas City brought fourteen coaches loaded to the guard, many Woodmen riding the steps and platform from Kansas City to Joplin.

The speech making occurred at Cunningham Park and took place at 10 A. M. The parade occurred at 2 P. M., formed at Cox park and marched down Main street. There were eleven bands in the parade and thirty-two camps of Woodmen aggregating 5,000 members. Dr. E. C. H. Squire was the grand marshal and handled the great parade in a most excellent manner, not a single detail being overlooked. In the election of state officers Dr. Squire was named as vice president of the state camp.

The drill contest took place at 5:30 P. M., five teams of Woodmen entering the drill contest, which resulted as follows: First prize, Midland Camp, Kansas City; second prize, Nevada Camp.

The Fort Scott team entered the contest for the world championship, but no other team contested their right to the honor—took no part in the contest proper. After the contest for the state championship was over—the team gave an exhibition drill which thrilled the huge crowd of spectators with admiration.

At night the eleven bands, having a total of 255 instruments, com-



bined and paraded the street, concluding with an open air concert, and this feature was one which lent no little enjoyment to the day's program.

#### THE GERMANIA SOCIETY

In 1891 the Germania Society built a neat club room and dance and amusement hall at the corner of Third and Joplin streets and the dedication which occurred January 7, 1892, was a great event among the Germans of the city.

The dedicatory address was delivered by Lieutenant Governor Claycomb and a number of short talks were made by prominent members of the organization, after which dancing was indulged in until the wee small hours.

Until the building of the Elk club house in 1905 the Germania Hall was the place where all swell society functions were had, and is yet a popular place for dances and social amusements.

Shortly following the building of the new home, a singing section was organized, with R. Seidenstriker as president and director. From that time to the present, this glee club, which now contains more than a hundred voices, has been one of the best singing societies in the state and has participated, with great credit to the city, in a number of musical events.

On January 1, 1897, the Germania Society celebrated its twentieth anniversary and the event was a great social success.

#### FIRST ELKS STREET FAIR

On May 29, 1899, Joplin Lodge No. 501, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, was instituted with fifty charter members, all of whom were social leaders and among the best business men of the city.

The Elks lodge differs from other fraternities in this—that it has for its fundamental virtue the very laudable purpose of making its fellow members happy and living in the present, rather than being content with the glorious deeds of the past, or the future expectations. With the Elks, therefore, the club house, and the social functions of the day are most important.

Joplin Lodge, No. 501, chose for its first presiding officer a man of great energy, Geo. H. Redell, and to the upbuilding of the order he gave much of his time. The lodge at once set about to furnish a club room and with this end in view, gave in 1899 a very successful street fair—which by-the-way, was the first street fair that Joplin had.

The fair occurred October 23-28, 1899, and was managed by an executive committee, headed by P. A. Leedy as chairman. Booths for the exhibition of various wares and merchandise were erected all along Main street and the fair proper was given in a tented, fence-like enclosure on East Fifth street, between Kentucky Avenue and the railway tracks. The queen of the fair was Miss Mamie Schnur—and most graciously did she reign.

The fair opened with a grand parade Monday afternoon, which was

witnessed by fifteen thousand people, the business of the city having suspended during the afternoon. The opening parade was largely a spectacular and fraternal one and formed in the following order. Squadron of mounted police; Company G, Second Regiment, M. N. G.; O. P. Morton Post, No. 14, G. A. R.; mayor and city officials in carriages; Joplin Lodge, No. 501, B. P. O. E., escorting the queen and her maids of honor; the Hoo Hoos; A. O. U. W. lodges; I. O. O. F. lodges; labor unions; Ore Producers' Association; floats.

The Elks carried canes decorated with streamers of purple and white. The Hoo Hoos wore black caps and ulsters and were preceded by an immense black cat—the emblem of their order.

Among the floats that attracted especial comment were the following: The 'Frisco lines—a miniature engine and cars manned by a crew of little boys and girls, who cried as they passed along the streets "Take the 'Frisco line!"

Walter Scott's little daughter appeared as a fairy driving a great white swan, and the effect was perfectly arranged and executed, winning the prize for the most unique float. The coronation of the queen occurred at night and was carried out with all of the splendor of a real inauguration. Mayor Spencer acted as high lord chancellor and placed the jeweled crown on the head of the social ruler for the week and figuratively delivered to her and her subjects the keys of the city. The queen was attended by Misses Van Osdel and Norris of Carthage and Misses Clark and Montjoy, of Webb City.

The flower parade, also the first that Joplin had witnessed, occurred Tuesday and was a spectacle worth going miles to see. This parade was headed by the exalted ruler, Geo. Redell, who drove an automobile—the first one ever seen in Joplin. This parade excited so much favorable comment that it was repeated during the closing day.

Forty beautiful decorated carriages and traps were in line, among them the following: Mrs. Dr. Snyder and Mrs. J. H. Spencer, phaeton; white chrysanthemums and ruchings of white tarleton.

George Layne and Miss Kitty Austin, trap; literally covered with white roses, three white horses driven abreast, Russian fashion, with arches of white roses connecting them.

Mr. and Mrs. Patlon; road wagon in shades of purple and lavender, purple harness and satin ribbons.

Miss Murphy, trap; artistic covering of water lilies, accompanied by the Misses Paul, Dr. Simpson and Dr. Matthews.

Miss Kathleen Rauschenbach; trap in three shades of yellow roses and yellow satin harness, with Miss Della Wilson.

Mrs. Michael's; trap in corn flowers and oats, with Misses Pierce, Bertha Young and Daisy McKee.

Morgan Taylor; pony cart in white roses, accompanied by little Miss Mona Henrichs.

Mrs. Chickering; surrey in pink and chrysanthemums and black tarleton, with Master Chester, Mrs. Amsbary and Miss Lawderback.

The Misses Zelleken; carriage in pink, with Miss Luna Yale and Miss Kisler of Kansas City.

The Misses Gregg; trap in poppies and oats, accompanied by Mrs. Mamie Hendricks and Miss Maria Estrada.

Mr. and Mrs. Shiffendecker; stanhope in amber shades, a magnificently decorated vehicle.

Mesdames Fry and Work; phaeton in pink and green roses.

Misses Clover; trap in morning glories with Mrs. Dr. Yeager.

Mrs. Church; trap with poppies, accompanied by Miss Reedy Woodring, Miss Louise Church and Mrs. Luther.

Mrs. J. F. Walker, trap; turquoise, blue tarleton and pink poppies, with Mrs. W. F. Snyder, Mrs. Cragin and Mrs. Lewis Craig.

Mrs. Jack Armil, surrey; goldenrod with Mrs. S. Cissna, Miss Fay Cissna and Miss Katherine Dolan.

Mrs. W. W. Clark; road wagon in violet and white.

Mrs. E. D. Porter; trap in white and green hollyhock, with Mesdames Waite, Pifer and Will Porter.

Mrs. E. S. Lockett; trap in yellow and white roses, very elaborate, accompanied by Miss Edna Lockett, Miss Emma Roesch and Mrs. Smith, her sister.

Mrs. Wenrich; buggy in gorgeous display of sunflowers, with Miss Mollie Robinson.

Miss Riland Gregg; trap in yellow shades, accompanied by Miss Nellie Farwell, Esther Evans, Grace Lawder and Elizabeth Waite.

Miss Wilgus; trap in pink chrysanthemums and smilax, with Miss Dot Dennis.

The Geddes cart, lavender shades; driven by Miss Tillie Dorfield, with Miss Hattie Hohman.

Mrs. Joe Weyland, road cart; in American Beauty roses, accompanied by Miss Elsie Coles.

Mrs. C. W. Adams and Mrs. H. Juergens; trap in pink and white roses and ribbons.

Miss Van Arsdale; trap in pink and green roses, with Mesdames Pearl Young, Alice Wilson and Miss Lida Johnson.

Napoleon Davis; cart in many tinted roses, with Emmett Toohey, Lena Burriss and Ruby Davis.

Charley White; cart in violet and white.

Mrs. Redell; carriage and pair, in black and yellow, with Mesdames Ball, Leonard and Campbell.

Mrs. W. H. Wells; trap in pink roses with Mrs. Wells.

Little Miss Ina Sayman; pony cart in yellow.

Mrs. McIndoe; trap in pansy shades of purple and yellow, yellow satin harness and ribbons, with Mrs. Will Hacker.

Mrs. W. E. Morgan's two little children; pony cart in beautiful yellow shades.

Little Miss Helen Scott was out on her float in her fairy garb driving her swan. This was one of the most beautiful of all the spectacles.

George H. Redell in his automobile, accompanied by Court Wetherill.

Mrs. Bingham; surry in lavender and white, accompanied by Miss Florine Allen, Florence Wolff, Miss Allen Chapman, Chicago.

Miss Hester Michaelles on a burro, decorated in blue, led by Ralph Michaelles.

#### YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

In our chapter of the 'eighties a mention was made of the efforts to organize a Young Men's Christian Association in Joplin. A permanent organization was effected February 11, 1891. On Friday evening, January 21st, a meeting was held at the residence of A. H. Waite, where plans were formulated for a permanent organization, and Sunday morning, the 23rd, in all of the pulpits of the city addresses were made, explaining the modes of working, and the benefits to the city of a Y. M. C. A. On February 11th in the old Tabernacle, at a mass meeting of the men of all denominations, the permanent organization was effected, with the following as the first board of directors: J. H. Dangerfield, president; J. W. Ore, vice president; A. B. McConnel, secretary; J. C. Faulkender, treasurer; O. B. Hamlin, A. H. Waite, J. R. Yates, W. A. Nickell and E. T. Doty.

The sum of three thousand dollars was subscribed for the maintenance of the rooms and quarters covering fifty feet over Nos. 414-16 Main street were rented and used until the present elegant building was constructed. These old Y. M. C. A. rooms, although small, were the scenes of many splendid gatherings, both religious and social.

On January 1, 1892, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Young Men's Christian Association tendered a reception to the young men of the city, and this was the beginning of a series of social events which drew the Christian young people closer together in a social way. These New Year receptions were annual events in Joplin during the remainder of the decade and were always popular. At the reception of January 1, 1897, more than three hundred young people were present.

J. E. Colter, who came to Joplin in 1894 as secretary, was a most popular and hard working officer, and by his personal efforts built the Y. M. C. A. up to a formidable men's organization. During the Spanish-American war Secretary Colter accompanied the troops to the front and kept at the great camp at Chickamauga a Y. M. C. A. tent which, as much as any other thing, helped to keep the boys in good spirits. The Y. M. C. A. tent was "just like home." Here were all of the county papers, magazines, letter paper, etc., and when, during the hot weather so many of the boys were sick, Mr. Colter ministered to their wants, and visited them in camp and hospital, always bringing comfort and cheer. Every man in the Second Regiment had a tender spot in his heart for the Y. M. C. A. tent, and the local association has always been a power in the city for good.

#### ENTERTAIN THE STATE Y. M. C. A. CONVENTION

The State Young Men's Christian Association met in Joplin February 11-13, 1897, and brought here a large number of Christian young



men and church workers. The sessions of the convention were held at the First Methodist church and a number of splendid addresses were heard.

Walter G. Tyzzer, of St. Louis, led the big chorus which opened the conference, and it was an inspiration to hear the seven hundred men who were in attendance sing the Gospel hymns. It seemed to the author, who was present, as if the very rafters in the roof echoed and reechoed the songs that were sung. Andrew Baird, of Kansas City, W. P. Andrews, of Atlanta, Georgia, and G. T. Coxhead and Dr. Doggett, of Springfield, Massachusetts, were among the noted Y. M. C. A. workers present, who delivered helpful addresses to the young men. In the selection of officers Hon. Jno. H. Taylor, of Joplin, was elected president of the state association for 1897.

One of the notable features of the convention was the entertainment which Joplin accorded the visitors. The local Y. M. C. A. had appointed a reception committee of fifty, which was in every sense of the word a reception committee, for they at once made every out-of-town visitor feel at home and left nothing undone that would add to the comfort and enjoyment. Every delegate was supplied with a badge on which was printed "My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am from \_\_\_\_\_. let's get acquainted. Shake!"

This informal introduction not only served as a means of at once getting the delegates acquainted with each other, but with the citizens as well, and the acquaintances that one made, and the friendships formed were long and lasting. The delegates were also entertained in the homes of the people, no one was permitted to pay out a cent for hotel accommodations and on the last day of the gathering the citizens turned out en masse with their carriages and took the entire delegation over the mining district, visiting all points of interest.

#### THE JOPLIN CHARITABLE UNION

A history of Joplin would not be complete without a special mention of the Charitable Union, an organization which during the 'nineties came into great prominence and which did a grand and noble work for sweet charity's sake.

The panic of 1893 brought to an end the building boom which was then at full height and, with the general business depression which followed and the temporary closing down of many of the mines on account of the slump in the price of jack, there was naturally much suffering among the poor.

This condition called for immediate relief and the good people of the city organized the Joplin Charitable Union to care for the needy. In all ages women have been good ministering angels and the history of the world is full of their noble acts and kind and loving deeds. It was therefore but natural that the women of the city should take the initiative in this good work and they, with the assistance of a few men who

could take a little time now and then from the business cares, brought comfort into many homes and relieved the distress of the hour.

The first officers of the Charitable Union were: President, Mrs. E. D. Porter; vice president, Mrs. L. A. Fillmore; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Dr. A. R. Snyder. In order that the work might be more effectively carried on the five wards of the city were organized into separate districts, with a relief committee in each precinct, and in this way when a case of suffering was reported it was at once investigated by the committee and if worthy, assisted.

The men of means contributed large sums of money and a series of entertainments, dances, etc., were given to raise funds. The city council came to the front and did its part by providing employment on the streets and at a public wood yard for a limited number of men. In order that as many men as possible, might be given work, and thus keep the family in groceries and necessities, no one was permitted to spend more than three days in each week on this public work.

#### POTATO DAY

On the day before Thanksgiving the pupils of the schools were asked to contribute provisions, and they were asked to bring at least one potato. The response was generous and whole-hearted. Wednesday afternoon the boys and girls came to school bringing potatoes by the pocketful, by the sackful and by the peck, and the school rooms of the city resembled miniature groceries. So generous were the pupils and patrons that over one hundred bushels of potatoes were gathered up and distributed by the union on Thanksgiving day, besides a considerable assortment of other groceries and provisions.

The Charitable Union continued its organization until the Provident Association came into the field to relieve it.

As mentioned before, the men of the city did their part and lent valuable assistance to the ladies in carrying out their noble work.

#### A NOVEL ENTERTAINMENT

Among the entertainments given under the auspices of the union for charity's sake was one at the Germania Hall, January 10, 1894.

The admission was free and, as an attraction to get the people there, a number of gymnastic events were had including a silent drill and bayonet exercise from Company G; Indian club swinging from the Pansy Club; twenty-four young misses from the Franklin school, and vaulting, etc., by the gymnasium class from the Y. M. C. A. After the exercises lunch baskets were sold. After selecting a basket the purchaser hunted up his partner—the lady who packed the lunch—and paid for it at the rate of one quarter cent a pound of the lady's weight; and it was strange how much more the young ladies weighed on the charity scales than on the standard scales elsewhere. This entertainment netted a good round sum.

The Charitable Union continued as an organization until 1900 and did a noble work. During the later years of the decade, however, the work was largely done by the ministers, each of the denominations being represented on the official board. Rev. W. T. Wright, of the Methodist church, was the last president. The union was succeeded in its charity work by the Provident Association.

The following little incident came to the attention of the author one day in 1899 and he relates it here as one of many stories that might be told of the philanthropically inclined men of Joplin.

One cold and blustering day—and, by the way, just following a blizzard—the master of one of the Masonic lodges received a telegram from the lodge at Oklahoma City stating that one of their brethren, a former Joplinite, had died, and that his body was being brought to his home city for interment. The Joplin lodge was asked to perform the last sad rites at the grave for the Oklahoma lodge. The master of the lodge started out to summons a committee to meet the train and escort the remains to the home of his relatives. The first member of the lodge who was met was C. W. Lyon, later mayor of Joplin, and then one of the hard-working members of the Charitable Union. The master hailed Mr. Lyon, who was hurrying along the street, and told him the contents of the telegram.

Mr. Lyon said that he would be at the train at the appointed time, but said that he must hurry along as he had some important work to do. It so happened that the presiding officer of the Masonic lodge was going in the same direction that Mr. Lyon was hurrying and, as the wind was cutting, he hurried too, kept up with the kindly disposed man and found that he was out distributing coal to the homes which Jack Frost had caught short of fuel. He afterward learned that Mr. Lyon had been out since early sunrise and had been to fifty or more box houses and tents in the Kansas City bottom, leaving at each place a little pile of coal and wood.

#### THE JOPLIN CHILDREN'S HOME

In June, 1899, a movement was started by the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Joplin, to provide for the homeless children of the city—and, after a few months of preliminary work, a children's home was established in a small four-room cottage at No. 708 Pearl street, with Mrs. C. E. Barr as matron. In this small house what is now Joplin's most widely supported charity had its beginning.

"Charity should begin at home"—but not if there are destitute children somewhere else. "Suffer little children to come unto Me" were indeed a sarcastic adjuration if those children had to come hungry and cold and forlorn. Men whose lives are thrown into that hunt of gaunt, gray Want that romancers so glibly name the "underworld" soon learn to look calmly upon scenes of misery that a Dumas could not describe. But when they look into the pinched face of a starved, world-weary child the most hardened of them feels an unwonted tightening of the throat.

Charity begins with the children in Joplin; or, to be more accurate of diction, Joplin's most pretentious charitable institution is devoted to the care of children who would otherwise be thrown upon the tender mercies of a busy-with-its-own-affairs world. Not once, in the years since it was established, has this institution failed to receive adequate support from the citizens of Joplin. Not once, in that time, has it failed in its fulfillment of the public obligation to unfortunate childhood.

Further mention of the Home will be made later.

#### NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1891

Previous to 1891 there had been no general observance of New Years in a social way, and only now and then an occasional lady would keep open-house. January 1, 1891, however, the day was generally observed and at a score or more of homes, open-house was kept, the lady of the house being assisted by a number of her lady friends.

The following were among the places where New Year's Receptions were held: Mrs. W. A. McMillen, assisted by Madames James A. Bolen, T. D. Waninfred, W. K. Proudfoot, and Misses Ella Johnson, and Opal McMillen. Mrs. L. Riseling, assisted by Miss Corine Allington and Lizzie Riseling; Mrs. A. H. Waite, assisted by Madames H. H. Gregg, Lillian Robinson, and Miss Mary Carson; Mrs. Will Moore, assisted by Madames H. H. Crittenden, Will Holman, H. P. Campbell, and Miss Mattie Campbell; Mrs. Dr. A. R. Snyder, assisted by Mrs. Jno. Craigin, E. D. Porter, Miss Lillie Campbell, and Miss Clara Mason; Miss Dora Landauer, assisted by Misses Stella Thurman, and Belle Prince; Miss May Hunt, assisted by Misses Maude Hunt and Helen Purcell; Mrs. M. C. Allen, assisted by Misses Ida Babst, and Kate Allen; Mrs. J. E. Pearson, assisted by Madames Dr. M. T. Batsley, and L. M. Bates; Mrs. W. C. Witman, assisted by Mrs. W. S. Paul; Mrs. A. V. Allen, assisted by Mrs C. V. Petrause.

At each of the above places a large number of gentlemen called and the day was most delightfully spent, old friendships were renewed and new acquaintances formed. This pleasant custom of keeping open-house on New Year's day has been observed on numerous times, but never more pleasantly than in 1891.



## CHAPTER XXXVI

### MUNICIPAL AND MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS

JOPLIN CLUB ASSUMES CITY PROBLEMS—CLUB HOUSE AND THEATER DEDICATED—OTHER JOPLIN CLUB TOPICS—COMPANY G, SECOND REGIMENT, N. G. M.—RELIEF ASSOCIATION—THE “HERALD’S” COMPANY G BOX—GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT OF 1893—THE PARADE—THE CAMP FIRE—ELECTION SOUTH WEST MISSOURI PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION PICNIC—THE JOPLIN CYCLE CLUB.

Early in 1890 the Joplin Club inaugurated a policy which greatly increased its activity and usefulness—to-wit, the plan of setting aside one night in the week for the discussion of important matters pertaining to the city’s welfare.

#### JOPLIN CLUB ASSUMES CITY’S PROBLEMS

At the first business meeting in January of that year the late W. B. McAntire, in a vigorous speech set forth the good that would come of a full and free discussion of the questions relative to civic improvement and business policies that would arise from time to time and suggested that, by those discussions, many plans for a greater Joplin would be brought out and that by a concerted action of the people of the city, the plans agreed to would be carried to a successful termination.

Acting on his suggestions, the club set apart Wednesday evening of each week for the discussion of the questions of the day, and from that time to this the weekly meetings have been of great importance and have perhaps more than any other one factor moulded public opinion in Joplin and shaped the destinies of the city. During the ’nineties the Joplin Club was instrumental in securing the erection of a number of public buildings, among them the Club Theater and the Keystone Hotel. By a series of public meetings they educated the people to the need of a public sewer system. They secured from the several publicity departments of the state proper recognition of the mining industry and caused the mining output to be correctly reported. To illustrate: In the report of the labor commissioner for 1889 the output of the Jasper county mines was published as \$2,144,000, less than the actual amount produced; this matter was brought to the attention of the club by Col. H. H. Gregg, and, in a subsequently printed report the error was corrected by the state.

It would be impossible, in a brief history such as this, to enumerate in detail all of the activities of the club. We will, however, mention here a few of its acts, in order that the reader may understand the importance the organization sustained to Joplin's business life

#### CLUB HOUSE AND THEATER DEDICATED

Among the matters brought up for discussion by the Joplin Club was the need of a suitable club house and also a theater building in keeping with the growing city. A company was organized composed almost wholly of local capital and members of the Joplin Club to erect a club house and theater combined; the structure was very appropriately called the Club Theater building. The theater has a seating capacity of 1,400, occupying the west part of the structure, and the club rooms include the second floor of the Joplin street side.

The Club Theater was formally opened January 26, 1891, by Frederick Ward in "King Henry VIII." On the curtain of the Club Theater was painted a beautiful picture of Grand Falls, as it appeared before the war. The picture was made by the United States Geological Survey.

The club rooms were dedicated, with appropriate ceremonies on March 4th, and we copy here the report of the exercises, speeches, etc., from the *Joplin Daily Herald* of March 5th:

#### ORATORICAL SHOTS FIRED OFF LAST NIGHT IN THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW JOPLIN CLUB ROOMS—MANY VISITORS PRESENT

"Every train running into Joplin had on board representative citizens of our neighboring towns and cities. They came by twos, by the dozen and by the score. They were the flower of the people represented, and it is not an exaggeration to say that taken all in all there was never seen in Joplin a finer-looking body of men. They were intelligent-looking and well dressed, many of them wearing full dress suits to do honor to the occasion calling them here. Coming thus they paid a double compliment to the organization that had invited them to partake of their hospitality. Long before twilight the early visitors had gathered about the hotels weary with the long stroll they had taken, while viewing the beauty and activity of the southern metropolis, better known as the 'Electric Wonder.' Before the hour of assembling at the club rooms, the visitors spent the time at the hotels renewing acquaintances and receiving new arrivals. At 8 o'clock the grand march for the club rooms in the new theater began. There the scene was an animated one. Until the hour for the evening's exercises to begin arrived, the rooms were crowded with as lively and vivacious a body of men as they will ever hold again, in all probability. The scenic artists had put on the finishing touches, the florist had arranged flowers and tropical plants with consummate skill, and the rooms had been decorated with an eye to beauty and pleasure. All was in readiness for the chairman's gavel when it fell at 9 o'clock. Before it went down, however, the guests had

made hundreds of new acquaintances, had shaken hands all round and exchanged the compliments of the day. Liquid refreshments had been enjoyed and the air bore testimony to the fact that numerous boxes of choicest Havanas had given up their fragrance to the delectation of the lovers of the weed. The gentlemen entertained and entertainers were in the best of spirits and fully ready for the unalloyed enjoyment of the program of the night. It had been the intention of the widely known and popular club to give a grand opening on the completion of the new rooms and the time came last night. Ample preparations had been made to make it a success and neither time nor means had been spared in the work. The committee appointed to superintend it has never shirked but had entered upon carrying out the wishes of the club with seeming pleasure. To their arduous labors is due the successful termination of last night's banquet. The double rooms which were last night dedicated to the use of the enterprising wide awake business men of Joplin are large beautiful and elegant, suitable in every respect for the purpose for which they will be used. They are such headquarters as the members can feel proud of and be happy at all times to show to the world. They were dedicated not only for business but for pleasure. All work and no play would do for the club what it would have done for Jack, hence the tables of amusement which will be placed in the rooms and other attractions for whiling away the spare hours. The Joplin Club is to be an institution of the future as substantial and active as any in our midst for the city's future welfare and prosperity. The people expect much of it and they will not be disappointed if the opening exercises can be taken as an indication of what is proposed to be done.

"At 9 o'clock the president of the Joplin Club, W. H. Picher, called the audience to order and made a brief speech of welcome. He said that he welcomed the guests present in the name of the Joplin Club. On behalf of its members he extended to every visitor a hearty welcome. He wanted all to go away with the kindest recollections of the evening. He welcomed all in the true spirit of hospitality. The club is yet young he continued, but it was with reasonable pride that he alluded to the success it has already attained. Every member was proud of it. This building had been erected by the members of the club. Mr. Picher concluded with a pleasing reference to the guests of the evening and then read the following letter from Governor Francis:

STATE OF MISSOURI, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF JEFFERSON, March 2, 1891—S. C. Henderson, Esq., Joplin, Mo.—Dear Sir:—I very much regret that official duties will prevent me from being with you on Wednesday, the 4th inst., at the opening of the Joplin Club, for it would afford me great pleasure to visit your city again and partake of your whole souled hospitality and renew the many delightful acquaintances formed there.

The progress of Joplin and the enterprise of her public spirited citizens has attracted attention beyond the limits of our state. The mineral wealth of your section has in my opinion hardly begun to develop. The future has in store a grand destiny for Southwest Missouri and its realization will be hailed by no one with more sincere satisfaction than by

Yours respectfully,

DAVID R. FRANCIS.

“After the reading of the letter, he introduced Hon. Gabriel Schmuck, of Galena, who said that it afforded him great pleasure to be present and participate in the pleasure of the evening. He also regarded it as an honor to follow the president of the club who had delivered the address of welcome. ‘I come here,’ he said, ‘rather to sit at the festive board than to make a speech. Not being thoroughly versed in the history of Missouri I hesitate to tackle so large a subject as has been assigned me. Although we have been mining for years we have not as yet got at the true merits of the case. Not many years ago the buffalo roamed over our hills and valleys, now the abode of men of industry and culture. The buffalo is dead and gone, but we have still the ox and the ass and we are digging for another animal. We are digging for jack. We are growing more conservative, more liberal. The state line that separates Kansas and Missouri is only an imaginary one. After all, gentlemen, Missouri is only a continuation of my state of Kansas. You are our brothers and we should all have a kindly feeling for each other. We are getting metropolitan in Galena; we speak all languages there and speak them all correctly. But, gentlemen, think of such a grand country as we have. We are one people, ours one country. State lines are only imaginary. We should be bound together in brotherly affection. There is no room for hate, but there is room for all. I’m proud of Joplin. I’m proud of such a building as this is which you have erected. It is an evidence of great power and endurance. Galena can take a lesson from Joplin. A great change has come over Joplin in the last few years. She is no longer a village, but a city. Energy has done it. I want to see her reach a population of 100,000. We all want to see it. What is your interest is our interest. Let us all grow together. Let brotherly feeling prevail among us all.’

“The next speaker was Judge O. H. Picher. He said he had listened with great pleasure to his old friend, Mr. Schmuck, whom he esteemed very highly. As to state lines he agreed with Mr. Schmuck that they were only imaginary. ‘Nature never intended that Kansas and Missouri should be separated at all. Whether Kansas belonged to Missouri, or vice versa, depended altogether on the Ozark mountains. The range settled it. One certainly included the other. Southwestern Missouri depends on the Ozark range. It has on its surface all that we shall talk of tonight. On her slope lies this district. It happens that right here are gathered more of those things that conduce to the happiness and pleasure of the world than you can find anywhere else that I know of. Here fruits grow and vegetables abound in abundance on the surface and mineral is found beneath the surface. It is found here as it is nowhere else in the world. At first it was thought that this mineral was to be found only in pockets, that it would only be temporary and after a while would cease; but not so. In 1872 I happened to be in California and was informed there by a friend that our lead was all right, but as for zinc we would find we had an inexhaustible supply of it in Mexico, as soon as a commercial value could be set upon it. That was nineteen years ago and what is the result? There is not in the whole world a country as rich on



account of its zinc ore as this. My throat fails me, gentlemen, but I will add that the comfort of my life is the staying qualities of this locality. It is the poorman's paradise. You may fail here, as I have done often, but the country will support you. You can get on your feet again. Note the beauty of it. The poor men with their pick and shovel have brought this district to the attention of the capitalists. Notwithstanding and in spite of trade fluctuations without outside help, with the aid of her own citizens by the stuff that lies in the ground, there is no such country like that of southwestern Missouri in the world. I believe it and you all must. You can afford to make mistakes here, because this country will take care of you when you do. Her resources are unlimited. There is nothing here but solidity. We all wish very much for more unity; we should be more united. There are many things that united we can do, while as individuals we cannot do. There is no room here for individuality. We have an association that we should all be interested in. We should all attend its meetings, stay with the association. Together we can do a great deal. For that purpose these halls are built. We must get together and discuss our interests. United action is necessary. There is no limit your influence will have on the markets of the world. Each community must have an organization of its own. Just such an organization as this. Each one can do something by itself, but more if we all combine in smelting our ores and in other industries.' Judge Picher then spoke of the fact that the club had invited its guests without any intention of being formal in the banquet proceedings and asked all those present whenever they happened to be in Joplin to make the rooms their headquarters. To feel free and at home.

" 'Citizens of Joplin and visitors,' began Judge W. B. McAntire. 'I'm happy to meet you all here on this occasion. We have all been greatly interested in what has been said regarding our relation with each other. But gentlemen there has been too much jealousy in the past in this section. There is no sense in it. No one ever built himself up by tearing down some one else. As for us, we have no such feeling. We don't want to play dog in the manger. We can't afford to do it. We begin to feel that this spirit is dying out. We don't care how large Carthage or Webb City grows, how rich Galena gets or how many hatcheries Neosho secures. We want to see them all prosper. We rejoice that you can't see each other without coming through Joplin and we are always glad to see you too. We think we have the finest town in the world. Why, I used to hunt ducks right here where our streets are. I can remember, and I'm a young man yet, when lots here, where we now stand, were sold for a mere trifle. You could get one free by buying one and building a shanty on it. If some of the older residents had had a little more sand and bought more lots they would have been rich today. You hear that remark daily. Lots that used to sell for fifteen dollars and twenty dollars now sell for fifteen thousand and twenty thousand dollars. I expect to see them sell for one hundred thousand dollars. Consider well and you too will agree with me. This ground

is all underlaid with ore. We will have a population here in a few years of fifty thousand people. We have now forty passenger trains daily, sixty traveling men on the road, new factories being daily established and new smelteries to be built soon. Snyder Brothers ship tomorrow one thousand tons of zinc ore to Wales. Joplin has not yet reached the age of beauty. There are other places more gorgeous, but none more healthful, happy and prosperous. We have but one undertaker and half the time he's out of a job. We have a double track electric railway and white lead works that are unlike any other in the United States in one respect. They have a daily capacity of 65,000 pounds of pig lead and 20,000 of white lead. We have now a paint factory which will put a half dozen men on the road. In public schools we're not behind any city. We are to have new sewers and new smelteries and factories too numerous to mention. I hope, gentlemen, that your towns also will grow and flourish. The better off you are, the better off we are. Let us grow together.'

'One of the most finished and bright speeches of the evening was that of H. S. Wicks. The following extract will only give a faint idea of what he said: 'There should be no envy or jealousy between the cities of this lead and zinc region. It should not be a question as to whether we shall outdistance Carthage or whether Webb City shall overhaul us or whether Galena shall spurt up along side. We are now all bound up in a common destiny. Anything that benefits one, benefits all the others and any malicious attack on one damages to that extent the rest. What we want is true, sympathetic and united action and, having all our common efforts moulded together in a common purpose, move forward to continually new triumphs in the future. The Joplin Club with an existence of but little over two years has already been identified with every important project that has contributed to the prosperity of this community. Housed now in this splendid edifice and equipped with every element of success and every feature that will attract new blood, and new life. Standing tonight on the threshold of new opportunities she should free herself from every dormant propensity and be ready and eager for new conquests.'

'Al Cahn, of Carthage, followed Mr. Wicks in a humorous address which elicited much applause. He said Moses sent spies into Canaan and they returned with a goodly report of the land. They took back grapes that would silence a horticulturist of California on that subject. 'Had those spies landed on Plymouth Rock they would have selected Jasper county as their destination and they would not have made a mistake. My relations did so and knowing a good thing when they saw it they stayed here. Jasper county has an area of twenty-two by thirty miles, is the third county in the state in size and the fourth in wealth; has more railroad mileage and a larger public school fund than any other county. Figures may seem a little dry just now after leaving the other room but they are truthful. Her output last year was \$4,000,000. There is no more fertile land in this great country of ours than Jasper county. She has sixteen mills and the superiority of her flour makes it com-

mand a higher price than that of other states and it finds a ready sale in any market. Cattle, horses and sheep graze on her rich pastures and her farmers till the soil in summer and mine her lead and zinc in the winter. She has 50,000 inhabitants and has room for 500,000 more. This is the best apple country to be found and had Adam and Eve been placed here that Garden of Eden story would never have been told. We have vineyards here for the German, railroads for the sons of the Emerald Isle, commerce for the English, but no use for the Chinese.

“There need be no danger or fear of over-production or exhaustion of our mineral resources. Lead has been mined in Spain, Germany and other older countries for hundreds of years and still they continue to mine there and find it. They go 800 and 1000 feet deep for their lead. He who placed it in the ground over there also placed it here. The commercial value of our lead and zinc will keep right along with the price of other commodities. In the next century the center of population will move west, the next world's fair will be held here, and the greatest curiosities on exhibition will be the pick and the shovel and other tools used in mining. I am not dreaming or indulging in idle prophecy. It will come true and our descendants will laugh at the primitive way in which we are mining.

“We need more capital. Let me conclude with an illustration. This evening as I was walking over to this beautiful building I overheard two gentlemen in front of me talking about Joplin. They were visitors here and, like me, guests of this evening's dedication. One of them said: “Well, I have been very much entertained today in going about through the mines, and this is surely a live town; but if the mines are as big as they say they are, and if they are making as much money as they say they are, why don't they build more sidewalks and make more public improvements?” The question was a pertinent one and I will answer it by telling this little story: One morning at the opening of school in a western town, a boy came to be enrolled who was poorly clad and who was exceedingly dirty. The teacher told him to go home and wash his face and not to come back until he was presentable. In the afternoon the urchin came back with the lower half of his face washed, but the top part as dirty as ever. The teacher said, “See here! I told you to go home and wash your face. I did not mean just half. Now I want to know why you did not wash your face perfectly clean.” “Well,” replied the boy, “I didn't wash any higher because my shirt-tail would not reach any farther.”

“And so it is with us. We are doing the best we can and are reaching out just as far as our financial shirt-tail will reach; and as we grow older will no doubt do better.”

“Dr. C. C. Wood, president of Scarret College, Neosho, who with Al Cahn carried off the honors of the evening, said in part: ‘I am somewhat puzzled to know just why I was invited to address this club. Just why a Methodist minister should be asked to talk on an occasion such as this I cannot figure out. A preacher is generally supposed not to know anything about finance and real estate. With one he has no intimate ac-



quaintance and with the other he usually owns just as much as he carries on his clothes when he falls into a mud hole; and this he owns by right of discovery. A minister is generally called upon to christen babies, celebrate the bonds of matrimony and bury the dead. As a minister, I suppose I am called upon to christen this magnificent building and help launch into history the new era of good fellowship which will come to Joplin and all of the surrounding cities and towns.

“ ‘I am often called upon to attend to all that is left of a man when the lawyers and the doctor get through with him and I now bury all the past envy and animosity between Missouri and bleeding Kansas. A portion of Kansas is now on the other side of the room refreshing himself after so long a dry spell.

“ ‘With Kansas I would have liked to have been on more intimate terms a few years ago. During the war they came over and took our animals instead of digging for the “jack” as they do now. That was reciprocity. I met a party of about 1,000 Kansans one day during the late unpleasantness and retired in good order, but I hated to see them go because they took my best saddle horse. I reciprocated not long after and, going over into Kansas, with a party of Missourians, captured him back.

“ ‘Newton county, where I live, is a great county and if Brother Cahn had mentioned that Newton county is the center of the world I would have said his head was level. I visited Newton county when I was a young man, but I did not take any of the grapes home for fear my neighbors would beat me down and get the place I had picked out for my future home. I know a good thing when I see it, but there is one strange thing about Newton county though. We have plenty of water there and yet the Democrats have a good working majority.

“ ‘Neosho is the healthiest place in the world. Do you know that we had to lynch a man in order to start a cemetery down there. We have one lady in Neosho who is so old that she says she guesses the Lord has forgotten her. Joplin is only twenty miles from Neosho, and there is something to be proud of.’

“Dr. Wood then closed with a beautiful eulogy to the future Missourian and the possibilities of the great southwest.

“J. T. James, president of the Webb City Commercial Club, and Phil Campbell of Pittsburgh, both made short talks, after which the assemblage retired to the stage of the Club Theater and there partook of a sumptuous banquet.”

#### OTHER JOPLIN CLUB TOPICS

The following gentlemen served the club as presidents during the 'nineties: 1890, S. C. Henderson; 1891, W. H. Picher; 1892, W. C. Wetherill; 1893, F. E. Williams; 1894, H. H. Gregg; 1895, E. O. Bartlett; 1896, Jno. C. Trigg; 1897, J. H. Spencer; 1898, B. T. Wilson; 1899, Chas. Schifferdecker.



On November 2, 1893, the Joplin Club made a trip to Kansas City, having a two-fold object in view, first to get better acquainted with the business men and methods of Kansas City, and thus have better business connections, and secondly to advertise Joplin. The trip was highly successful both in a business and social way. Another Kansas City junket was indulged in during 1896.

In 1893 a Kansas City company was formed to build a railway from that city to Port Arthur and the Joplin Club at once got busy to secure the road for Joplin. Fifteen thousand dollars was subscribed toward securing the new road. The K. C. P. and G. acquired the old splitlog railway and extended the line from Joplin to Kansas City via Pittsburg, Kansas and from Siloam Springs south. The P. & G. is now known as the Kansas City Southern.

#### COMPANY G, SECOND INFANTRY, N. G. M.

In 1890, when the National guard was being reorganized all over Missouri, the military loving men of Joplin began agitating the question of reorganizing the old Joplin Rifles.

Among the new comers, who were attracted to Joplin in 1890 by the boom that was on, was Capt. F. C. Florance, of Kansas City, a member of the Third Regiment and ordinance officer of that organization. Captain Florance put the matter in form by making application to Col. W. K. Caffee for permission to organize a company for the Second Regiment. The application was approved by Colonel Caffee, Adjutant General Wickham and Governor Francis, and a membership committee at once set out to secure the required number for a company. The company was formally mustered into the service of the state December 30, 1899, by Col. W. K. Caffee, of the Second Regiment. The charter membership of the company at the date of its muster-in was forty-three, but it was at once recruited to sixty-five. The following were the first officers of the company: Captain, F. C. Florance; first lieutenant, Guy G. Farwell; second lieutenant, John Kehlor; first sergeant, F. H. Wilson; sergeants, Steel McMillen, A. L. North, Bert Schnur and G. H. Davidson; corporals, W. J. Morrow, John Dawson, H. P. Schellenback, Bert Fenn, Fred Parks and George H. Shaw.

Company G made its first appearance at the funeral of General Sherman at St. Louis February 20, 1891. The company had sixty-four men in line and was especially mentioned by the *Post Dispatch*, of St. Louis, as being the largest company attending the obsequies of the distinguished soldier.

On August 27, 1891, Captain Florance resigned his commission and J. B. Glover, of the famous Zouave Drill Corps was chosen captain. In June, 1892, Captain Glover withdrew from the company, and there was a complete reorganization. George B. Webster, late of the First Regiment, St. Louis, was chosen captain; Sergeant A. S. Chappel was elected first lieutenant and J. S. Casey, second lieutenant.

Under Captain Webster's command the company attended the regimental camp at Carthage and was complimented by the officers sent to make the regimental inspection for its deportment in camp. In July, 1893, Captain Webster and Lieutenant Chappel both removed from the city and the company was again reorganized, with the following corps of officers: Captain, Joel T. Livingston; first lieutenant, J. S. Casey; second lieutenant, Fred C. Clippenger; first sergeant, W. E. Bailey.

The company which had run down to thirty-six men was now recruited up to sixty men and the Crossman Hall in East Joplin rented for an armory.

The company went into camp at Cunningham Grove, July 3-4, 1894; also took part in the regimental camp at Springfield in August of that year. The commanding officer prescribed a code of signals for assembling the company for an emergency call. In July, 1894, the captain receiving telegraphic orders from Colonel Caffee to assemble and hold the company in readiness to go to Moberly, where Governor Stone had planned to assemble the Second and Fourth Regiments for the purpose of preserving order in the railway strike which was tying up the traffic of the state. The call to assemble was sounded on the fire bell and in one hour after receiving the message forty-two men were at the armory and in heavy marching order.

On February 22, 1895, Company G banquetted at the Joplin Hotel, with Brigadier General Wickham, Colonel Caffee and staff, and Major Williams, together with their wives and sweethearts as guests. This was one of the brilliant affairs in Company G's history.

In May, 1895, Captain Livingston resigned his commission and was succeeded by R. A. Spear, of the famous Canton Lincoln, a natural born commander and military man. Shortly following Captain Spear's election the lieutenants resigned and E. L. Shepherd, just graduated from the Marmaduke Military Academy, and E. E. Duckett, one of the crack-drilled men, were chosen lieutenants.

In 1896 there occurred a series of social functions, given by the company at their armory, which was now moved to the second story over Serage livery barn. At the annual inspection in 1896 Company G made the highest per cent of any of the companies in the Second Regiment.

In 1898 the company responded to the country's call, went to the front with the volunteers in the Spanish-American war and made an excellent record. It being apparent that the company would see no fighting, Lieutenant Shepherd resigned before the close of the war and second lieutenant Duckett was promoted to the first lieutenancy. First Sergeant A. C. Tschappler receiving the appointment of second lieutenant.

Returning home at the close of the war, the company was banquetted by the citizens and the reception was a most enjoyable occasion.

The following is a roster of Company G at the time of the Spanish-American war: Captain Robt. A. Spears; first lieutenant E. S. Shepherd (resigned in October, 1898); first lieutenant E. E. Duckett; second lieutenant, Ameal C. Tschappler; sergeants, Frank Samson, D. D.

Watson, Claud W. Calvin, Archie M. Kidd, James H. Mears and James Kelley; corporals, E. J. Boggs, William Jones, Clarence Warren, Albert C. Owen, Lester M. Ingraham, Ralph G. Borung, David Garrison, Frank Smith, William St. Clair, Thomas Rogers and Charles V. Spyers; trumpeters, Walter Axton and Benton Ebling; wagoner, Chas. Mason; artificer, Clarence W. Sloan; cook, James Duncan.

Privates, Jesse Axton, Edwin E. Brumbaugh, James N. Bailey, John F. Bean, William Bodkin, Robert E. Bennett, James H. Clarey, William M. Clarey, Thomas F. Clarey, Evert E. Collier, Benjamin Corn, Edward Crampton, Charles Chennoweth, Jay Z. Dunwoody, Charles E. De Witt, M. P. Fox, George K. Freeman, Claude Flemmy, R. A. Greer, Charles R. Gould, James Gilmore, Y. A. Hayes, Wiley Hodshier, Homer Hollwork, Henry Haynie, C. M. Hills, Logan Horner, Joseph Howard, Henry G. Helm, Adrian Hallerman, Fred Henckley, Charles Johnson, Joseph Jaranch, Walter Johnson, Simon Jones, Fred Kenner, Fred Kerr, Jeff Long, Lester Loy, Arlington Lanyon, Henry Lewis, Dennis Landon, Harley McCullough, Percie Mylins, Levi Newgent, Jacob Nischurtz, Henry Neff, Otis Nicholson, Norton Olivar, Harry Plimmer, John Pemrose, Frank Reka, Charles Rhodes, William Rice, Charles Rice, Edward Riseling, Herbert Ryan, John E. Smith, Charles Shaffer, William Saulsbury, Chester Smith, Howard Shryock, Nicholas Spoil, Patrick Spoil, N. Short, Frank Triganza, George Thompson, Thomas Thomolson, Audley Woodward, Melvin Wylls, Lewis Watzdorf, Walter Wicks and George Zeilter.

#### COMPANY G RELIEF ASSOCIATION

As mentioned before Company G was first stationed at Chickamauga Parks during the summer of 1898. In this camp were 45,000 United States volunteers, and it was but natural, with such a large body thrown together, that the sanitation of the camp should be a great problem and this, with the intense heat during July and August, brought quite a number of the boys to the hospital tent. On learning the condition and realizing that quick action was necessary to relieve the boys at the front, Mrs. J. L. Briggs called a meeting of the women of the city at the Methodist church for the purpose of organizing a Hospital Relief Association. Two hundred ladies responded to the call, on July 14, 1898, and organized the Company G Relief Association.

The following were the officers of the society: President, Mrs. J. L. Briggs; vice president, Mrs. A. A. Carey; secretary, Mrs. M. T. Downing; treasurer, Mrs. W. F. Halliard.

Executive committee: First Ward, Mrs. O. P. Simson; Second Ward, Mrs. C. W. Lyon and Miss Alice Triganza; Third Ward, Mrs. J. M. MeAdams; Fourth Ward, Mrs. Galen Spencer; Fifth Ward, Mrs. Greene Sanson and Mrs. N. Moore.

Quite a sum of money was collected and forwarded to the company for the purpose of securing additional nurses and for the purchase of

medical supplies. July 20th, on the beautiful lawn of Mrs. Briggs' home, a social was given which was a financial success and gave the association a good working fund.

#### THE "HERALD'S" COMPANY G BOX

When the boys were first mustered into the service supplies, of course, were scarce and realizing that our boys at Chickamauga would probably be in need before the army could be thoroughly supplied, the *Joplin Daily Herald* asked the citizens to make up a box and send to the front. The response was liberal and the *Herald* box from home brought much comfort and joy to the boys who had gone to fight for Cuba's independence and to "Remember the Maine."

After the war Company G was reorganized and again mustered into the service of the state. The following were the officers of the company after the Spanish American war: Captain, E. E. Duckett; first lieutenant, James Kelley; second lieutenant, E. J. Boggs; first sergeant, Jesse Axton.

Other mention of Company G is made in our notes of the Second Regiment.

#### GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC ENCAMPMENT OF 1893

The meeting of the Missouri Department, Grand Army of the Republic, in Joplin April 12-14, 1893, was an important event and brought to the "City that Jack Built" fully five thousand visitors. Joplin never does things by halves and on this occasion entertained the veterans of the Union army in a royal manner. The Confederate veterans joined with the citizens and extended to the boys in blue a magnificent welcome.

The encampment was opened by a reception to the veterans and a general good time was had. Old acquaintances were renewed, war stories were told and songs were sung, bringing back to the old soldiers the stirring times and scenes of the early sixties. C. W. Whitehead, of Kansas City, department commander, presided over the sessions of the encampment. Among the distinguished visitors present were National Commander A. G. Weissert, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Past Commander William Warner, of Kansas City, and Ex-Governor Phelps, of Springfield.

The morning session was given over to routine business, the appointment of committees, etc., the two principal features of the day being the grand parade in the afternoon and the campfire at night.

#### THE PARADE

The parade occurred at four o'clock in the afternoon and was a magnificent affair. Over fifteen hundred veterans were in line. The military and semi-military societies of the city acted as escort and helped to lend enthusiasm to the occasion. Past Commander E. W. Beach was the



grand marshal and, with his aides, Col. J. V. Pierce and Captain Galen Spencer, formed the big parade and promptly at the hour set gave the signal to "forward march."

The order of march was as follows: City marshal; platoon of mounted police; Chief Marshal Beach; Mounted orderlies; First Division, Gen. Charles W. Squires, marshal; Carthage Light Guard Band; Canton Lincoln, I. O. O. F.; Joplin Light Infantry; Division No. 40, U. R. K. of P.; Joplin fire department; Second Division, A. H. Brewer, marshal; Nevada Martial Band; National Commander Weissert; Department Commander C. W. Whitehead, and staff; Delegates to Department Encampment; G. A. R. Third Division, H. W. Davidson, marshal; Kansas Drum Corps; Merrill Camp, Sons of Veterans and all visiting Sons of Veterans.

Visiting posts and comrades of the G. A. R., O. P. Morton Post No. 14.

Fourth Division, T. W. Cunningham, marshal.

Southwest Protective Association and other mounted bodies.

Main street was lined with people from Second to Ninth, and the sidewalks were impassable from Third to Seventh. Hundreds of people congregated at points of vantage on the side streets. Most of Joplin was out to view the spectacle. The music, the bright uniforms of the civic societies, the measured tread and military appearance of the Grand Army posts, and the waving flags and banners, combined to inspire an enthusiasm which broke out in cheer upon cheer when the Central school building was reached. Here the pupils of the public schools were massed. They occupied both sides of Wall street from Ninth to Seventh and their lines extended from the curbing to the fences. Others were massed in the yard of the Central school building and all of them were supplied with flags which they waved vigorously. The veterans uncovered as they passed between the lines and cheered in return for the cordial greeting of the pupils. This was a marked and most interesting feature of the parade. The *Joplin Daily Herald*, in commenting on the parade had an interesting column, "On the Skirmish Line." Following are some of the interesting notes: Colonel Cunningham's Cavalry contributed an important feature to the parade.

The U. R. K. of P. made an excellent showing.

Canton Lincoln was complimented all along the line.

Capt. M. M. Rice as captain of the guard looked well in uniform.

The registry department was thronged the entire day by searchers for old army comrades.

Hassendeuble, F. P. Blair and Ransom posts, of St. Louis, made a magnificent appearance.

The mounted police presented a fine appearance and did good service in clearing the line of march.

"Marching Through Georgia" is now, as it was nearly thirty years ago, the popular song of the soldier.

Next to Missouri, Illinois regiments have the largest representation in the registers; Iowa comes next.

Next to Commander-in-chief Weissert, Past State Commander Warner is one of the youngest looking men in the encampment. National Commander Weissert marched in line with the boys and it is the first time that the commander-in-chief has ever marched on foot in a parade. He marched with Department Commander Whitehead, Post Commander Warner, and Assistant Adjutant General Rogers, and they were as youthful appearing a quartette as could be found in the column.

James Hire, of the Joplin Post, beat the army record for lung power by blowing the street electric wagon machine up to 2200.

J. E. McNair, ex-postmaster of Webb City, searched the register carefully for a familiar name amongst the Lawrence veterans.

Chaplain Haggerty, who has served several terms, wears his hair, which is as white as the snow flakes, a la Andrew Jackson.

Captain Teets, who was a member of the first Ohio Infantry, looked in vain on the register for the name of a member of his regiment.

The fine appearance of the delegations from the several St. Louis posts excited frequent favorable comments along the line of parade.

George H. McCann, of the Old Coon Tobacco works, at Springfield, sent the boys a barrel of smoking tobacco and a supply of pipes.

Hon. W. S. Norton, of Scammonville, Kansas, attends the encampment and renewed acquaintance with his former Joplin neighbors. He was marshal here during the exciting time of the Lupton riot.

McConey & Son and T. W. Cunningham will be kindly remembered by the delegates for a bountiful supply of ice water conveniently placed for their use on the sidewalk in front of the Bank of Joplin.

Colonel J. P. Tracey, United States marshal for the western district of Missouri, is a member of the Springfield delegation. Colonel Tracey can laugh just as loudly as when he was the modest editor of the *Carthage Banner*.

Past Commander Warner evidently enjoys good digestion and an easy conscience. He left his uniform at home because the pantaloons lacked four inches of being sufficient for his equatorial expansion.

The United chorus by the entire department which accompanied Commander Whitehead's solo "Marching Through Georgia" at the afternoon session, fairly made the Club Theatre building tremble with the immense volume of patriotic melody.

When the encampment adjourned at noon it marched to the Frisco depot and escorted National Commander Weissert to his hotel. At the afternoon session a committee was appointed to escort him to the Club Theatre. He was there formally introduced to the encampment and delivered an address.

#### THE CAMP FIRE

The camp fire at the Club Theater was the crowning event of the session, and long before the hour for opening the building was packed to its capacity. Mayor R. B. Tyler for the city; president F. E. Williams, of the Joplin Club, both delivered addresses of welcome and Past Depart-

ment Commander Rassieur and Major William Warner responded on behalf of the old soldiers.

Rev. J. J. Martin of the First M. E. church and at that day one of Joplin's most entertaining talkers and Judge Charles G. Burton, department commander-elect, were called for and made pleasing talks. Inspector General Henry was called and responded with a patriotic song which set the audience wild with excitement.

Miss Nellie Bartlett, now Mrs. Snyder, of Kansas City, then one of Joplin's most charming elocutionists, gave a reading which was the hit of the evening. The Carthage Mandolin Club and the G. A. R. Glee Club, of Kansas City, interspered the speeches with musical hits and patriotic airs.

The evening's entertainment was closed with a drill by sixteen pretty high school girls, under the command of "Col." V. Letta Speaks, then one of Joplin's popular lady teachers.

#### ELECTION

It is always customary to elect the junior department commander from the city where the encampment is held and Past Commander Henry Phelps was honored by the G. A. R. for this important post.

At the next annual encampment —————, Post Commander J. L. Briggs, who perhaps more than any other one man had made the Joplin meeting a success, was selected as Missouri's representative on the National Council of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was three successive times reelected. At the meeting of the Woman's Relief Corps Mrs. J. L. Briggs was chosen department vice president and at the next meeting passed to the chair.

#### SOUTH WEST MISSOURI PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION PICNIC

During the spring of 1891 a strong society was founded, composed largely of farmers, and known as the South West Missouri Protective Association, its objects being to capture and bring to speedy justice all evil doers, especially horse thieves.

Three lodges or companies were formed in the territory contiguous to Joplin, and these three joined in a picnic and celebrated at Cunningham's Grove, on June 1, 1891. At about eleven o'clock the members of the organization gathered in the Kansas City bottoms and rode 200 strong through Main street in Joplin to the grove. The parade was an imposing spectacle and was a great object lesson. T. W. Cunningham was the marshal of the day and handled the horsemen like a veteran cavalry commander. After dinner at the grove speeches were had, Wilbur. Haughawout, of Tower of Light Lodge, being the principal speaker.

#### THE JOPLIN CYCLE CLUB

The bicycle was as popular among the smart set in the nineties as the automobile is now, and Joplin had several hundred wheelmen who organized in 1897, the Joplin Cycle Club with 200 members. W. P. Cleavland as captain.

The first one of the notable events given by this club was a ten mile county cross-road race, on June 19, 1897. The start and finish were witnessed by thousands of people, Joplin street from Third to Sixth being literally packed; Fourth and Joplin was the starting point. Forty-two wheelmen took part in the race, which was won by W. P. Cleavland with Robert Holmes, second; W. C. Trautman, third; and Harry Rogers, fourth.

The road-race was so popular that the club took a lease on Cox Park and constructed a splendid race course. On September 9, 1897, a racing meet was had which brought to Joplin many wheelmen from abroad. In the morning a parade was participated in by the two hundred members of the club and perhaps fifty out-of-town cycle enthusiasts. This parade was one of the interesting features of the meet, many of the riders costuming themselves in grotesque and fancy costume, and the line of march resembled very much a mardi gras parade.

Seven great racing events were had, as follows: Event No. 1—Inter-state championship, eleven starters, was won by Robert Holmes, with Joe Stebbins, of Carthage, second and Geo. F. Haskins, of Webb City, third.

Event No. 2—Trick and fancy riding; won by Murray Williams.

Event No. 3—Open-mile amateur; ten starters; F. B. Hatterley, of St. Louis, winner; time, 2:30.

Event No. 4—Half-mile professional; five starters; Bert Halker, Kansas City, winner; time, 1:13.

Event No. 5—Exhibition in track riding; winner, Geo. H. Powell, Ft. Scott.

Event No. 6—Two-mile amateurs; seven starters; Dan Daugherty, of St. Louis, winner; time, 5:38.

The closing event was a one-mile professional, a most exciting contest, which, on account of a dispute as to the rules of the race, was twice run. Sam Coburn was the winner, making the mile in 2:05.

After this event quite a number of interesting exhibitions were given by professional wheelmen in attendance and the day went down in the history of Joplin as a great event, as far as sport was concerned.

A number of cycle meets were had, all of which excited great interest. The Cycle Club was exceedingly popular until, in the last decade, when the automobile has taken its place.



## CHAPTER XXXVII

### WEBB CITY

POLITICAL HISTORY DURING THE 'NINETIES—SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS—THE WEBB CITY COLLEGE—NEWSPAPERS—BUILDING OF THE NEWLAND HOTEL—RECEPTION BY WEBB CITY LODGE, No. 115, K. P.—WEBB CITY DIVISION, No. 11, U. R. K. P.—THE EBERTS-WRIGHT STAG PARTY.

During the nineties, Webb City almost doubled its population. It spread out to the south and west and became not only a most busy mart, in a business way, but a city beautiful.

We mention here a score or more of incidents which represent the life, thought and activities of the people.

#### POLITICAL HISTORY DURING THE NINETIES

The first election held under the new charter in April, 1890, was hotly contested and resulted as follows: T. J. Harrington, mayor; John Brown, marshal; August Brewster, city attorney; A. C. Crandall, collector; E. T. Webb, treasurer, and John J. Corbill, recorder (police judge).

City Council—First ward, C. P. Hendrickson and Paul Maron; second ward, Walter Tholburn and William Helburn; third ward, W. W. Greenlee and W. C. Reed; fourth ward, John J. Craig and E. Swartz.

At the off-year election, 1891, the following gentlemen came into the council: John Martsof, N. N. Burkhead and John Dunlap.

1892: Mayor, C. S. Manker; marshal, H. W. Piatt; assessor, J. M. Magill; treasurer, E. T. Webb; attorney, W. M. Robinson; recorder, G. W. Phillips; collector, S. B. Wells.

City Council—W. W. Wampler, Louis Heln, W. E. Reed and E. E. Brandsbury, together with the hold-over members elected in 1891. A heavy vote was polled at this election.

At the spring election of 1893, the following members came into the council: O. P. Sutherland, C. J. McClelland, L. O. Walker and H. E. Hatcher.

1894: Mayor, J. J. Funk; marshal, H. W. Piatt; city attorney, E. C. Crow; police judge, A. M. Whitworth; assessor, L. E. Albright and treasurer, E. T. Webb.

Council—David Bacon, George E. Quinby, A. B. Smith and F. M. King, together with the hold-over members elected in 1893.

At the spring election, 1895 the following gentlemen came on the council: L. D. Hare, Jerry Clark, J. C. Abbott and L. R. Reed.

At the fall election of 1894 Judge William Robinson was elected to the supreme court of the state and E. C. Crow, city attorney of Webb City, was appointed by the governor to fill out the vacancy. This was quite a coincident, the city attorneyship of Webb City being the stepping stone to the circuit court in both incidents. Judge Crow later became attorney of the state. W. J. Owen filled out Judge Crow's term as city attorney.

1896: Mayor, F. M. King; marshal, Calvin Fox; police judge, A. M. Whitworth; city attorney, W. J. Owen; treasurer, H. B. Hulett; collector, J. B. Overstreet and assessor, J. S. Harrison.

Council—J. M. Lenesta, Ab Rich, W. C. Pugh, William James, and Adam Lagle, with the hold-over members elected in 1895.

Mr. King resigned at the close of his first year and J. W. Frye was elected to fill out the unexpired term.

1898: Mayor, E. E. Spracklin; marshal, J. A. Brown; city attorney, A. M. Whitworth; police judge, J. Rooney; assessor, P. L. Martin; col., W. E. Reed; treasurer, H. B. Hulett.

Council—J. E. Locke, D. L. Mosier, W. H. Shelton and T. J. Harrington, together with the hold-over members elected 1897.

During this administration the city limits were extended south to Oakland but were contested in court and declared void.

In 1899 the following gentlemen came into the council: J. M. Linerba, A. D. Hatton, John Quarry and W. L. Howard.

#### SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

We are indebted to Miss Ella Helm, teacher of history in the Webb City High School, for the following review of the Webb City schools covering the later 'eighties, the 'nineties and the first ten years of the present century.

The perpetuity of the free institutions of our country depends upon the intelligence and patriotism of her citizens. The public school is the medium by which the proper preparation for good citizenship may be accomplished, and we feel a just pride in what has been and is being done along these lines. Today it is my pleasure to tell you about the development and growth of the public schools since I came here.

Seventeen years ago an eight-room frame school house stood where the Central High School building stands today. It had no library, no laboratory—in fact, no conveniences like the modern school building of this city today, and was the only structure of the kind in the town.

The enrolment at that time was between four and five hundred. The directors were W. E. Foster, Josiah Van Buskirk and John Jancock. The corps of teachers were: Principal, Theodric Axline; V. Letta Speaks, Ella Helm, Ella Walker, M. J. Weatherford, Willie E. Franklin, Ruby Robinson and Rose Fishburn.

Owing to the floating population and overcrowded condition of the schools, they were not well graded. I remember distinctly a fad grew among the students to let the "big geography" be a basis for classification, and, without regard to intellectual attainments, the big, the little, the wise, the unwise, came to my department and said in an assured tone: "I am classified, for I have the 'big geography.'"

The first morning of the session, the High School pupils were permitted to select their own course of study, for it would have been difficult to have done otherwise with this motley crowd—representatives from so many different schools and so many different states. By careful study of the advancement of the pupils, Professor Axline made the following High School course of study, suited to the needs of the times: Physical geography, higher arithmetic, algebra, plane geometry, botany, zoology, physics, rhetoric, general history and English literature.

There were no graduates the first year and, instead of having the regular graduating exercises, we had a "strawberry festival" in which the entire community took part. The proceeds of the evening were ninety-four dollars, and the money was applied for the purchase of the organ now in use in Room 6, West Side. The following year, the Webster, a four-room building, was completed and ready for occupancy; and hence four more teachers were required.

In March, 1890, Webb City was reorganized into a city district and elected six directors, viz: G. F. C. Corl, C. E. McBride, A. A. Hulett, W. E. Foster and George Robinson; H. C. Gaston, clerk, and J. P. Stewart, treasurer. During that year the event that most seriously affected the routine of school work was the "small-pox scare." There were only fourteen pupils who continued in school, with a force of seven teachers. One teacher had only one pupil, but the bells rang and the children congregated around the "red flag," afraid to come to school, but they came to rehearsals of drills after school, and gave a glowing report of increase of cases, number of new flags, etc.

Under Professor Axline's supervision, we had the following graduates of 1890; Plum Edwards, C. W. Fishburn, Minnie Hancock, W. H. McAboy, Ada Stockston and Lucy Wolfe.

This was their program rendered at the Morris Opera House May 15, 1890:

Motto: "Not Finished, Only Begun."

Music.

Prayer by Rev. Dunlap.

Essay: "Meditation," by Minnie Hancock.

Essay: "Caesar," by Claude Fishburn.

Music.

Essay: "Over the Alps Lies Italy," by Lucy Wolfe.

Essay: ———, by W. H. McAboy.

Essay: "Class Prophecy," by Ada Stockston.

Class Song.

Presentation of Diplomas, by Professor Axline.

In two years' service Professor Axline did effective work, weeding out and grading the pupils, systematizing an elementary course of study, and laying the foundation for substantial development and growth in the future.

In 1890 Professor Stevens was employed as superintendent, with a force of twelve teachers. The highest room was No. 7, at the Central and included seventh and eighth grades and High School. The superintendent heard recitations in a little cloak room at the foot of the east stairway. There was no departmental work in the High School. Each teacher taught all the subjects in the grade assigned her. The schools were overcrowded. In the early spring school started in little Mineral Ridge school and continued until the opening of the West Side in 1892, with Miss Lucy Wolfe in charge.

In 1892, the West Side building was completed and the High School was changed to the West Side, occupying one room. The superintendent used the basement for his recitations. The course was extended to four years, in order to complete either Latin or scientific course of study.

In 1892 and 1893, in addition to the old Central, Webster and West Side, school was opened in the Holiness church in the southeast part of town and also in the old Mormon church on Allen street. The following year No. 5, West Side, was to include High work with Miss Wampler in charge. The new Central was completed and ready for occupancy December 1, 1894. The High School then occupied three rooms.

Professor Stevens' efficient and permanent service rendered the public schools inestimable. His organization, his raising the standard of the High School, and his progressive spirit as an educator, have left a favorable imprint on the minds and hearts of the Webb City people. He strengthened and evened the grades by placing stress on weak work in contests in parallel grades. This was especially admirable in arithmetic, reading, phonetics and spelling.

Professor Stevens also introduced into our schools drawing, music and nature study and fostered democratic ideas of government. His laudable means to direct and control public sentiment by public school entertainments, by public school street parade, by art exhibit and by comparisons of grade work, were highly commendable. His wisdom in making changes without any break in the work and his worthy incentives to induce students to adopt the new, and discard the old, received the universal support of the people.

I recall the proposition offered by Professor Stevens to the effect that any room where pupils should supply themselves with the new music book should be given a free car ride to the State Teachers' Association at Lamar, and represent the music as taught by Professor Whybark in the Webb City schools. There was universal interest, but my room was the fortunate one, and all had books but one; but the pupils soon took a collection and purchased another music reader.

The unique way in which "Arbor day exercises" was observed appealed to each home. Each pupil was requested to clean his home yard and pile rocks up in some convenient place, and a drayman free of



charge would call and haul them off. So you can plainly see Professor Stevens lived up to his motto: "To make the best possible of ourselves, our homes, our city."

The following are the names of the graduates during his supervision: Class of 1893—Bernice Ashcraft, Georgia Frey, Anna Julian, Frank McPherson, Nellie Redding, Mary Richards, Onie Van Horn and Ida Weatherford.

Class of 1894—May Ashcraft, Pauline Baum, Ella Booher, Roxie Clark, Florence Glenn, Flora Graham, Anna Hardy, Allen Hardy, Cordell Humphreys, Bertha Humphreys, Will Lane, Will Shelton, Mamie Tarrant, Nellie Tibbs and Agnes Wolfe.

Class of 1895—Anna Cabaniss, Clara Clark, Jean Clark, Harry Casner, Mamie De Lawter, Minnie Dunlap, Towle Hall, Choteau Garrison, Belle Hoff, Ella Thompson, Bert Johnson, Elenora McClelland, Fred Nesbit, Ernest Robinson, Thomas Roney, Edna Sands, Fred Barbee, Blanch Shelton, Ida Tarrant and Lulu Lane.

Professor A. G. Young, Professor Stevens' successor, was a thorough scholar, a leading educator and a worthy citizen. In a practical business manner he sought to introduce departmental work in the High School. In its infancy Professor Young taught physics and Miss Wampler, Latin. The next year he changed the course of study, and adopted the departmental plan in full. He also had Room 12 fitted up for a laboratory and introduced the laboratory method in the High School. Previous to that time, a little laboratory work had been done in chemistry. It was done by the teacher, however, no opportunity being afforded for individual work. The next year he organized a teachers' library. It was first started by each teacher contributing a dollar. On leaving school, the contributors were to receive back the money donated, less ten cents for each year they had had the use of the library. This laudable scheme encouraged professional reading and study on the part of the teachers and led to the organization of a Teachers' Improvement Club which has directed the teachers to better scholarship and higher ideals.

As soon as the departmental plan was in use, Professor Young began to purchase special works of reference for each department, and also to purchase pictures appropriate to each department of a general nature.

I believe the greatest revolution in the High School was wrought by doing away with formal examinations, and making the class work the basis for promotion.

Miss Holmes, a teacher of reading, was added to the faculty during Professor Young's superintendency and has won many laurels by her faultless interpretation of thought, by her ability to arouse pupil's originality, and by her teaching them to think for themselves and then give expression.

In 1900, the Franklin building and an addition to the Webster were built.

During the six years Professor Young was superintendent, we are

pleased to note improvement all along the lines and a recognition of good work by the University.

The following classes graduated:

Class of 1896—Lydia Anderson, Claude Ball, Maud Barnes, Kate Capp, Deane Comer, Clarence Foster, May Fishburn, Annie Gallienne, Jennie Hoff, Emma Johnson, Clara Long, Mary Mountjoy, Olive Nelson, Emma McAboy, Myrtle Morton, Mary Magruder, Effie Owings, James Richards, Lillie Ramsey, Mabel Radley, Myrtle Stogsdill, Katie Winter, Lottie Munson, Frank Magruder and Hubbe Wallace.

Class of 1897—Belle Dermott, Frank Funk, Alice Roney, Edna Robinson, Dan Roe, Lulu Stinnett, Anna Tibbs and Claude Watson.

Class of 1898—Flora Hixson, Alma Jones, Wallie Jameson, Percy Morton, Bessie Munson, Ida Roney and Ernest Smith.

Class of 1899—Pearl Corl, Nellie Stewart, Roy Havens, Clare Robinson, Fanny Margrave, Ollie Bradford, Jessie Cary, Ethel Spurgin, Flora Mason, Tinsy Cowan, Goldie Byrd and Nannie Thompson.

#### THE WEBB CITY COLLEGE

In 1893 the Baptists of Webb City began to agitate the question of founding a college for the higher education of the young men and women of the county. After much hard work money was subscribed and the college founded. The laying of the corner stone in 1894 was a most imposing spectacle, all of the societies of the county assisting the Masons in the ceremonies and the parade was almost a mile long. Dr. — Cook was the first president of the college and mapped out an up-to-date college course of study.

The first graduating exercises occurred May 23, 1896, twenty-three students completing the course of study. Dr. Cook was an eminent educator and his personality greatly added to the popularity of the college, which continued as a Baptist school until 1905. Further mention of the college will be made in the section covering the next decade.

#### NEWSPAPERS

Webb City had, during the decade, four papers which at different times influenced the life of the city and chronicled its daily happenings. The old *Webb City Times*, the *Webb City Star*, the *Record* and the *Webb City Register*, the last two still the two leading papers of the city. For a portion of the time Jesse Zook was the editor of the *Register* and his long editorial experience and his expert knowledge of mines and mining made this a most valuable paper.

#### WEBB CITY COMMERCIAL CLUB

In 1890 the Webb City Commercial Club was organized and has since been an important part of the Webb City commercial life. The charter membership of the Club was one hundred and forty, and the following were its first officers: President, J. T. James; secretary, Ted Molyneaux.

## BUILDING OF THE NEWLAND HOTEL

Among the many improvements of the nineties which helped to up-build Webb City was the erection of the Newland Hotel, which was commenced in 1890 and completed in January, 1891. The hotel was formally opened in February, with a sumptuous banquet which was attended by prominent business men not only from Webb City, but from all over the county. The dining room was profusely decorated with potted plants and cut flowers.

The following toasts were proposed and responded to:

"Poor Old Missouri—Moss may grow on her back, but unlimited wealth lies hidden beneath her bosom;" by Dr. Reece.

"Jasper County—Rich in agricultural wealth, richer in literary attainments and supreme in its mineral holdings;" by J. M. Rice, Sarcoxie.

"Joplin, the metropolis of the county;" by A. W. Newman, President Joplin National Bank.

"Oronogo, the historic old town;" by C. W. Elliott.

"Cartersville, our twin sister;" by J. J. Nelson.

"Webb City—Its past, present and future;" by C. L. Manker.

"Carthage, the city beautiful;" by A. W. John.

## RECEPTION BY WEBB CITY LODGE, NO. 115, K. P.

Perhaps the most brilliant lodge affair of the early nineties was the reception and banquet tendered to the Knights of Jasper and Barton Counties and Galena, Kansas, by the Webb City Lodge, No. 115, K. P., August 29, 1891.

At 8 o'clock in the evening the visiting delegation, eighty strong, and representing visitors from the lodges at Lamar, Carthage, Cartersville, Oronogo, Carl Junction, Joplin, Galena and Ft. Scott, Kansas, assembled at the lodge room, where a general good time was had and everybody made acquainted by the reception committee, after which the lodge was duly opened and the three ranks conferred on a class of candidates. At 12 o'clock the lodge, with their guests, took up their march to the Newland hotel, where they were most royally entertained. Here a scene of gay festivity presented itself. The banquet room was beautifully decorated with the colors of the order and the red, white and blue of the nation. The tables were ornamented with potted plants and cut flowers and half hidden from view in a grotto of flowers and plants, an orchestra played inspiring music. After the banquet a six-course spread was served, after which short talks were made by the following Pythians, Chancellor Commander, T. H. Goodwin, acting as toast master; "Lodge Decorum," G. K. Davidson, Joplin; "The Knights of the Sunflower State," P. C. Loomis, Ft. Scott; "One of the Boys," Dr. Merrison, Ft. Scott; "That Friendly Feeling," Joel T. Livingston, Ft. Scott; "What Pythianism Means to a Traveling Man," L. B. Cook, Carl Junction; "Justin N. Rathbone," Judge Sapp, Galena; "The Webb



City Knight," J. P. Willett; "Pythian Patriotism," F. E. Williams, Joplin; "The Golden Chain of Friendship," H. Conley, Lamar. It was two o'clock when the assemblage arose from the table, and as the jolly crowd of Knights departed from the hotel they voted the meeting one of "the best ever."

#### WEBB CITY DIVISION, No. 11, U. R. K. P.

In 1892, the Webb City Division, No. 11, of the U. R. K. P., was organized, with Henry Wormer, chief of the Webb City fire department, as captain. The company was composed of the best men of the city and at once became one of the crack semi-military organizations of the county. At Monett, on July 4, 1892, this company captured first prize in the drill contest of the companies of the third regiment, six companies being present and taking part in the contest. At Kansas City it won especial mention from Colonel Gray for its military bearing and decorum. Jock Chamberlain, a Bostonian, who had been a former Massachusetts guardsman and club man, was the right guide of this division, and much of its excellence—that is, so far as the little detail work of formation, etc., is concerned—was due to this genial and soldierly easterner.

#### THE EBERTS-WRIGHT STAG PARTY

In 1896, Charles Ebert and Will H. Wright, both royal entertainers and princes of good fellows, gave to a select few of their friends a stag party. The evening was spent in story telling, cards, etc., every guest being required to tell a story, sing a song, or recite a selection for the entertainment of the assemblage. The stag party was so much enjoyed that it was annually repeated for many years.

A Webb City paper gives the following description of the 1899 gathering which closed the social season of the nineteenth century from Webb City, the party occurring on December 29:

#### THE STAG PARTY A SWELL AFFAIR.

One of the most thoroughly enjoyable and altogether unique social events of the year took place at the private apartments of Will H. Wright and Charles Ebert, on December 29th. It was the fourth annual "stag" party with which these gentlemen delight their friends. About twenty guests had been invited and responded to the invitation. At the entrance door hung a huge Japanese lantern and thither swarmed the gentlemen of the city. Each guest on entering the room was presented with a boutonniere of pinks and given a guess on a conundrum, which when solved was found to tell the tale of Republicanism in a representation of "sound money, protection and good times."

Once within all were made to feel the generous hospitality of two of Webb City's most princely entertainers. The walls were covered with picture groups, quaint and unique, displaying a wealth of the esthetic sense that evidently predominates in their minds. In ample profusion were upholstery and tables for the assembled guests.



Here hilarity and social converse mingled with innocent games and colloquial diversion converted the rendezvous into a babel of many tongues. The genial hosts, assisted by Bert Wright, received the visitors and dispensed cigars and punch with lavish prodigality. There was no cessation of lavish hospitality until the midnight hour when Joe West, the popular caterer and commissariat appeared with an immense supply of edibles, consisting of excellent coffee, labeled packages of cheese bricks, sandwiches, pickles and other relishes which were served in approved style. Around the freighted festal boards the happy guests lingered until the full limits of their gastronomical capacity had been reached.

During the lunch hour a sort of experience meeting served to enliven all and there was a world of cheer and good stories passed around, one of the most enjoyable features of which was the singing by Mr. Muratta whose rich tenor voice filled the bachelor parlors of Messrs. Ebert and Wright with a wealth of song.

It was one of those social functions that brings man in closer touch with his fellowman cementing the ties of friendship and stamping on memory's tablet a page of pleasant remembrance.

The following were present: B. C. Wanglin, Theodore Rinehart, F. Riley, W. A. Snodgrass, James Muratta, S. S. Spracklin, C. B. and Dr. Chenoweth, R. M. Jones, G. B. Lowery, Walt Spurgin, Bert Wright, Chet Fishburn, J. A. Zook of Joplin, T. C. Hayden, W. W. Keys, Jas. Stewart, Joe West and J. W. Kieff.

## CHAPTER XXXVIII

### CARTERVILLE AND OTHER POINTS

NEWSPAPERS—THE CARTERVILLE BANK—PUBLIC SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—  
AMONG THE LODGES—CARTERVILLE BANDS—CARL JUNCTION—SAR-  
COXIE—ORONOGO—ASBURY.

Much of Carterville's mining and business industries has been mentioned in our county chapter and need not be reprinted here. The nineties in Carterville represented a great period of activity, and the period was rather noted for its home-making and business improvements.

We present here a few of the social and local business happenings, to the end that the reader may realize the importance of the city and its people and, in doing so beg to say that the newspaper files of the Carterville papers were not obtainable for this period and the 'stories' here presented were secured by personal interviews, or from newspaper clippings saved by the people of the city and kindly loaned the editor for use in compiling the data for this work.

#### NEWSPAPERS

Carterville was very fortunate, during this decade, in having two well edited newspapers, the *Mining News* and the *Carterville Journal*, the latter having the financial support of W. B. Kane, of the First National Bank.

E. W. Carlton, late of the *Joplin Daily Herald*, was the first editor of the paper and ably did he set out the richness and value of the Carterville district.

W. D. Sallie, the editor of the *Mining News*, was also a forceful writer and with his pen exerted no small influence in shaping the political destinies of Carterville. It was he who first mentioned S. H. Claycomb as a suitable representative to the state senate and it was this paper also which ably presented his claims on the party for the nomination of lieutenant-governor.

#### BUSINESS AND MINING

We include business and mining under the same head, for the reason that it would be a hard matter to separate the two in speaking of Car-

terville commercially. The mines of the Carterville district were the best producers of the nineties and made fortunes for many men. The predominance of the mining interests brought out many manufacturing industries, such as foundries and machine shops.

#### THE CARTERVILLE BANK

The vast amount of money changing hands in Carterville called for the organization of a bank and in December, 1890, W. B. Kane, with Henry Weyman, W. A. Daugherty and others, organized the Carterville Bank, which at once became a strong financial institution. In 1895 the owners of this bank purchased the stock of the Webb City National Bank and moved it to Carterville, the name being changed to the First National Bank of Carterville, with W. A. Daugherty as president and W. B. Kane as cashier. The Bank of Carterville now surrendered its charter and its depositors were taken over by the First National Bank of Carterville.

Many new stores were established, and among the business houses whose influence was county wide was the Weeks hardware store, which during the latter nineties was the largest retail hardware and implement house in the county.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS

During the nineties Carterville maintained a good school system. In 1891 Professor Frank Magoon, who had made a splendid supervisor, removed to St. Louis, and Prof. A. A. Antles was chosen superintendent and held this post for nine years, which of itself attests to his worth as an organizer, and an instructor. During this decade two new school houses were built and various improvements made. The teaching force was strengthened and the high school course made equal to other schools of the county.

#### IN THE OLDER DAYS

In 1904 Carterville school district erected a modern up-to-date high school building which was dedicated January 13, 1905. At the dedicatory exercises the following excellent paper was read, and we reproduce it here on account of its historic value. It is entitled "Reminiscences of Older Days in Carterville Schools; Growth and Progress of Education."

"Now many generations ago where you now sit circled with all that exalts and embellishes civilized life," says the paper, "the rank thistle nodded in the wind and the wild fox dug his hole unscared."

"The above expression is true in a literal sense of the city of Carterville only a few years ago; indeed, within the memory of some older citizens now living in this section.

"The progress and growth of Carterville's education and the advance of civilized life through the medium of her schools is the indication the writer will endeavor to show in this article.

"In 1875 and 1876, where Carterville now stands, was a field. Corn was grown on the western territory now covered by business houses, residence houses and mines. The field extended to the present line of Davy street. East of this was a wheat field which reached to Fountain street. During these years several families were attracted to this territory by the discovery of lead on the Webb farm and other discoveries which followed in close succession. The children of these families went to school to what was then known as the Washington school, which was located on the hill near where the North Heights building now stands. The exact location is yet discernable, as some of the old foundation rocks are yet visible on the lots owned by C. H. Lillibridge which join the Aylor residence lots. Carterville having received its name it may now be said that the first Carterville boys and girls attended school in the old Washington building, their teacher being Mr. Bean. Dr. Jacks, known at that time as John Jacks, who later became postmaster of Carterville, was followed by Mr. Bean. The third term was taught by William Thompson, now an attorney of Carthage. After the end of this term the Carterville children came to town to school, but the children from the country still continued in the old building.

"Dr. W. H. Price erected a building on the lot opposite that now occupied by the E. S. Casner residence, at the corner of Allen and Lewis streets, and taught several terms of select school.

"The first school house for Carterville was provided by the moving of an old brick store building from Medoc to the lot now occupied by Frank Briggs' residence, on West Main street. This building was only rented by the school district. The building was a two-story and was used for all kinds of public meetings. It was also used as a lodge room and the Blue Ribbon society held meetings there. The older pupils went down stairs to Mr. Thompson, who had in the meantime taken into himself a wife. Mrs. Thompson taught the smaller children in the upper room. They probably taught two terms in this building.

"The next year the Washington school was moved to a position in the prairie which is now between the Stalter meat market and the Thornton residence. The schoolhouse was considered away out of town at this location. The nearest house to the school was the residence of Gus Jordon, at the corner of Fountain and Main streets. An addition the same size of the old building was added to the old building and Frank Genlick and Mrs. Thompson were employed as teachers. (Mr. Thompson had gone to St. Louis to study law.)

"The next term was begun by Lee Kost in charge of the older pupils and Mrs. Kost having charge of the primary students. (Mr. Kost is now (1911) a Joplin druggist.)\* Mr. Kost resigned, after teaching about two months, and his place was filled by Miss Edith Johnston. She was the daughter of a Carthage doctor and afterward became the wife of Hank Gray. The remaining terms taught in this building were taught by Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Spencer.

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\*Now county superintendent of schools.



“When the Oronogo cyclone passed through this country, in 1883, this building with many others was blown away. Work was begun immediately toward the building of the old Central school, which has just been replaced by the new brick (1905). It was not completed until the middle of October, 1883. C. F. Cox, with three assistants, namely, Helen Jones, Allie Blackwell and Clara Byers. (During the term Miss Jones and Mr. Cox were married.)

“Henry Phelps and wife, who now live in Joplin, assisted by Allie Blackwell and Clara Byers, taught two more terms following. Mr. Davis and wife and Miss Rickman and Miss Nannie Woodward (now Mrs. Nannie Brown) taught the next year. J. C. Turk was principal during the next term. (Mr. Turk is now an attorney of Kansas City.) W. F. Bray was the next superintendent and it was under his administration that the school was graded. He taught two years. Miss Jennie Woods (now Mrs. Will Crenshaw) graduated under Mr. Bray and taught under him the second year of his stay. During the summer following Mr. Bray’s teaching (1889) two rooms were added to the Central building. This addition was not completed until November. During this term the intermediate and graduating classes had half-day sessions only.

“Frank Magoon was the next superintendent and had five assistants—Lewis Daugherty, Jennie Woods, Allie Lillibridge, Kate Jackson (now Mrs. M. C. Terry) and May Underwood (now Mrs. Tom Burch, of Chandler, Oklahoma).

“During the summer following this term the North Heights, four-room brick building was erected, and C. B. Davis was elected superintendent of both schools. Mr. Davis was assisted in the first term in the new building by S. B. Garvey, Jennie Woods, Hester Gray (now Mrs. J. C. Lovell). In the spring of 1891 Arbor day was celebrated by the planting of shade trees at the Central, and also at the North Heights building appropriate exercises were held. John Gray was the superintendent of the Central building this year. Superintendent Davis taught two years in the High school and dismissed his classes at 3 o’clock each afternoon, devoting the other hour to visiting the other rooms. During the summer of 1893, the Johnstown building of four rooms was constructed.

“A. A. Antles was elected superintendent, after having been superintendent of the Prosperity school for a time. Professor Antles served as superintendent of the city schools from 1893-4 to 1902-3, being nine years of continuous service. During the first two years of Mr. Antles’ service Professor L. G. Knight was principal of the Central school. He was succeeded by his brother, Charles Knight, who served only a short time and disappeared and for a time his whereabouts were unknown. Miss May Tyler was then promoted to his position and held the principalship of the Central building until 1903, when the building was sold and moved away.

“The Johnstown building was completed in the fall of 1893, and Professor J. W. Beddingfield was the first principal. Mr. Beddingfield has been for several years deputy county assessor.

"Superintendent Antles taught the High School for five years in the North Heights building after which it was moved to the Johnstown building, and Mrs. Ella Seeley placed in the High school and also of the building. She held this position for two years and was succeeded by Professor O. N. Waltz, who also held the position for two years. J. R. Simonson (two years), Miss Ella Booher (one year) and Miss Esther Thorsell (one year) were the succeeding principals of the Johnstown building, during Superintendent Antles' administration. In 1896 Prosperity was included in the Carterville school district and remained a part of it for two years. During the first year J. M. McCullough was the principal and the second year, C. L. Morgan. During the four years the High school was held at the Johnstown building, the North Heights building was under the principalship of Ellis Hummel for two years. In 1903 Professor O. N. Waltz was elected superintendent and is still holding the position. The Johnstown building was under the principalship of Miss Mamie Dodson during the first year, and the next year was placed in charge of Miss Pearl Mericle, who is at present the principal. The election of Professor Waltz to the position of superintendent vacated the principalship of the High school and Professor William H. Bishop was elected to this position and Miss Ella Booher became assistant.

"During the first part of the school year 1904, the children who had formerly attended school in the old Central frame building were accommodated the best way possible in the same building which now occupies two lots owned by Dr. Clark at the east end of Wilson street. There was no principal during this part of the year, each teacher managing her own part of the pupils.

"In the early part of 1904 the work of constructing the present new Central building was begun and continued until now. School adjourning for two weeks on Friday before Christmas, it reconvened in the new building on Monday morning, January 9, 1905.

"Having now reviewed the teachers and principals up-to-date, it is desired that the public know what the new Central building at Carterville is. It is a modern two-story, sixteen-room building, constructed of good brick with pressed brick facing. It is heated with hot air furnace and furnished with a dry closet apparatus. There are only ten recitation rooms. There is not a finer auditorium anywhere in this section in a school building than is found in this building. It was the intention of the board in having such a room to hold public meetings and entertainments in it. Heretofore all graduating exercises have been held either at a church or a hall in some business block. Elmer Boyd, a Carterville contractor, has had charge of the entire construction of the building. It cost the people about \$26,000. It is by far the most convenient and best equipped building in Jasper county.

"The first pupils to finish the graded course after it was established by Professor Bray were Sadie Gray (Fishburn), Allie Lillibridge, Carrie Jones (Fountain), and Hattie Byers (Hagaman). Owing to some class trouble they did not have any class entertainments.

"The first graduating exercises were held in the M. E. church seven-

teen years ago. The class included Quincy Sherman, Harley Nichols, Maude Fountain (Hummel), Mittee Helm (Southern) and Lilly Underwood (Cody). This class graduated under Frank Magoon. (The two boys died the following summer.)

“Some other matters may be interestingly continued as part of Carterville school history which have not been touched upon. When Professor C. B. Davis, now a citizen and business man at Carthage, took charge of Carterville and organized the High school, the course at first included two years’ work. When Professor Antles assumed charge another year was added and still another year was added when Professor Waltz assumed the superintendency. Thus Carterville graduates now have a four-years’ course to complete. To the first superintendent, Charles B. Davis, should be given the credit for mapping out ten years’ work for the Carterville schools. This work which was just begun by Professor Davis was carried out very effectively and in excellent manner by his successor, Professor Antles.

“Some graduates who have been associated with the Carterville schools in the capacity of teachers are deserving of especial mention. Prof. Will Bishop, now principal of the High School, is one of these. Sterling Worth is also recognized in the nine years’ service as teacher by each of the following ladies who were also graduates: Miss May Tyler, Miss May Hedges and Miss Tresa Daugherty. Mrs. Ella Seeley, although not a graduate of the Carterville schools, has perhaps served longer time in the teacher’s position than any other person. She has done service among Carterville boys and girls for twelve years.

“It is a matter of regret on the part of the writer that the names of Carterville’s first school directors could not be secured. It seems that no one knows anything about the old records. They do not seem to have been handed down from one clerk to another in succession, as the present clerk, C. L. Gray, has no knowledge about them. He has some of the records of later years, but none of the first records.

“Carterville does not take a back seat for any city of its size for a school record. The city is now finely equipped with ample room for growth for several years to come. The people now receiving the benefits will no doubt feel very grateful for years to come toward the present board which is composed of M. C. Terry, president; C. L. Gray, secretary; John B. Boyd, treasurer; L. Pitman, J. R. Leathers and W. L. Hodson. J. B. Gilbreath has served as director on the Carterville school board for about twenty years.

#### CHURCHES

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During the nineties, five churches labored for the betterment of Carterville socially and the upbuilding of the kingdom of the Master. They were especially strong in their efforts along the line of civic righteousness and at the city election of 1893 elected a strong official board pledged to the enforcement of the law. The successful candidates at this election were called the Law and Order party. At this election C. B. Davis was elected mayor and W. Brown, marshal.



## AMONG THE LODGES

Progress Lodge No. 216, Knights of Pythias, was organized August 26, 1891, by R. M. Stultz of Webb City, then grand master-at-arms of the order. The following were the first officers: Chancellor commander, J. D. Rogers; vice commander, W. E. Poundstone; prelate, T. C. Hendricks; master of finance, M. Leon; K. of R. and S., F. P. Blair; master-at-arms, A. E. Blackwell; inside guard, Sidney Byers. At the conclusion of the installation ceremonies a banquet was served to the visiting Knights who assisted the instituting officers in initiating the class.

## THE ODD FELLOWS

The three-linked fraternity had a great boom at Carterville during the early nineties and was a most influential order. On March 25, 1890, the Carterville Odd Fellows held a great meeting initiating a large class and concluding with a supper which was served at Uncle Billy Poundstone's. We speak of him as "Uncle Billy" because he was so well-liked by the boys that they delighted to call him "uncle" as a mark of their love for him.

The Rebekah Lodge also came into great prominence, the degree team being one of the best in the state. At the meeting of the State Grand Lodge, at Sedalia, on May 22, 1892, the Carterville Rebekahs carried off all the honors and won the first prize offered by the state authorities for the best exemplification of the work. At this same meeting Mrs. Allie Poundstone was elected state vice president and in 1893 passed the chair, making a most popular and efficient presiding officer.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen continued during the nineties to be the popular fraternal insurance order and sociability was a great factor in Carterville all during the decade. On October 27, 1891, Carterville Lodge conducted a largely attended public meeting, commemorating the twenty-third anniversary of the founding of the order. Four hundred members of the order from all over Jasper county were present. Speeches were made by Phil Hannum, S. A. Underwood, Joseph Blair and others, after which a much enjoyed lunch was served by the ladies' auxiliary.

The Carterville Masonic Lodge was instituted in April, 1893, with nineteen charter members. There were eighty-five members of the craft from neighboring towns present who assisted in the work. The first officers of the lodge were: W. W. Fewel, worshipful master; W. S. Dawson, senior warden; E. M. Thornton, junior warden; Wilson Blanton, treasurer; Dr. W. Price, secretary; J. W. Connor, senior deacon; Joseph Fountain and George W. Story, stewards; W. McCollough, tyler. After the ceremonies the members with their ladies repaired to the Planters Hotel where a banquet was served, at which a number of eloquent after-dinner speeches were made.



## CARTERVILLE BANDS

In March, 1891, there was organized in Carterville a female band which, to use a modern business phrase, "made good" and gave to the music-loving people of that city some most excellent band music. The members of this musical organization were: Hattie Byers, Allie Lillibridge, Lizzie Duncan, Bertie Hightower, Belle Cass, Maud Roop, Ollie Cass, Kate Jones, Edith Moore, Lillie Underwood and Maude Fountain.

Carterville also maintained a cornet band and its reputation extended far and wide. Its maneuverings while on parade were very attractive and no parade was complete without this famous organization.

## CARL JUNCTION

Carl Junction also made rapid strides during the nineties, almost doubling its population, and more than trebling its volume of business. Among the important factors in making a greater Carl Junction was the organization of a Commercial Club, which was effected December 5, 1890, with the following offices: President, J. W. Stroud; vice president, William Carter; secretary, S. A. Stuckey; treasurer, W. F. DeGarmo. This club brought the business men of the town closer together and they all worked in harmony for a greater business activity.

During this year nearly all of the great fraternities, among them the Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, organized wide awake and active lodges. The Baptists and Presbyterian denominations both built church edifices, and quite a number of substantial brick buildings were put up, among them the Carl Junction Hotel and the Chitwood Opera House.

We mention here a few of the incidents which happened in Carl Junction during the decade.

The silver anniversary of the organization of the Grand Army of the Republic was generally celebrated by the old soldiers all over the county and one of the most pleasing of these celebrations was at Carl Junction, April 6, 1891. Seventy-three veterans answered the roll-call by which the meeting was opened. The address of the evening was given by Commander Hopkins.

On August 9, 1891, the Farmers Alliance of Jasper County held in the grove south of Carl Junction a county picnic which was a monster affair. Mary Ellen Lease, the noted populist orator of the Sunflower state, was present and delivered the address of the day, and in it reiterated her much-used advice for the farmers to raise less corn and more hell for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the lawmakers the condition of the farming and laboring classes.

The 1891 annual meeting of the Spring River Baptist Association was held in Carl Junction and was largely attended. The meeting was held in the new Baptist church. Delegates were present from twenty-seven churches.

The Bank of Carl Junction was founded in 1892 by William Carter,

T. W. Cunningham and others, and the organization of this institution supplied a long-felt want in the town. From the very beginning the bank enjoyed a splendid patronage. This bank was burglarized November 16, 1899, the thieves dynamiting the safe and making way with \$4,000. The bank was fully insured against burglary and hold-ups and recovered the amount lost. The Chitwoods bought the interest of Mr. Carter and others and became the sole proprietors of the bank.

#### ORONOGO

Oronogo made a substantial gain in population and experienced a considerable size building boom. Better and more substantial houses were built and many new businesses established.

The Bank of Oronogo was established in 1892 by Robert Robyn, J. P. Newell, R. Stults, J. W. Stults and others. This bank lent a dignity to



ORONOGO AFTER IT WAS REBUILT

the town in a commercial way and not only supplied a long felt want, but established a sort of financial confidence in the town. The bank was burglarized in 1895, but was not seriously crippled.

The Masonic lodge continued to be, as in the eighties, the principal lodge of the place, but a number of other orders were formed, among them the Woodmen, Independent Order of Good Templars and Knights of Pythias. The Grand Army of the Republic post was an important factor in the social life of the city and on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the order gave a patriotic entertainment to which the public were invited.

The school system was excellent and the moral tone was high, the rowdy element having left and the better citizenship of the town asserting itself. The personnel of the city officers was high and we regret that we could not record a list for publication.

## SARCOXIE

Sarcoxie pushed rapidly to the front during the nineties, making a substantial gain in population and greatly increasing its business.

The formation of the Sarcoxie Strawberry Growers Association brought the berry industry into great prominence, and all during this decade strawberries and Sarcoxie were, in berry time, synonymous terms.

## ASBURY

The town of Asbury was laid out in 1896, was largely advertised by the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf Railway and attracted during that year a large number of investors. So rapidly did the town grow that before the close of the year there were six stores, two livery stables, two hotels and an implement house. The houses built were of a substantial character and a good class of people came here to make it their homes. The population increased so fast that it was necessary to build a two-room school house. Asbury also had a well edited paper and a bank. The population in this part of the county, however, would not support so many businesses and toward the close of the decade some of the stores were moved away. Asbury, however, is an important place and a considerable business is transacted here. It is strictly a farming town.





First Decade  
of the  
Twentieth Century

# CENSUS OF 1900

The County .....	84,018
Duval township including part of Neck City .....	1,026
Neck City, total in Duval and Mineral townships .....	528
Galena township, including Joplin .....	32,976
Joplin .....	26,023
Jackson township .....	1,678
Jasper township .....	1,175
Joplin township, including Webb City and Carterville .....	18,499
Carterville .....	4,445
Webb City .....	9,201
Lincoln township .....	665
McDonald township, including Avilla .....	1,203
Madison township .....	1,184
Marion township, including Carthage .....	11,056
Carthage .....	9,416
Mineral township, including Oronogo, Neck City and Purcell....	4,644
Oronogo township .....	2,073
Preston township, including Jasper City .....	1,597
Jasper City .....	627
Sarcoxie township, including Sarcoxie, Reeds, etc. ....	3,335
Sarcoxie City .....	1,126
Sheridan township .....	851
Twin Grove township, including Carl Junction .....	2,628
Carl Junction .....	1,177
Union township .....	1,377

## CHAPTER XXXIX

### GENERAL COUNTY TOPICS

COUNTY POLITICS—THE COUNTY SCHOOLS—STATE COURSE OF STUDY—JASPER COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE—STATE UNIVERSITY S. W. MISSOURI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION—PURCELL—LA RUSSELL—BUILDING A CHURCH IN A DAY—SEMI-MILITARY SOCIETIES—RAILROADS—VISIT OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA—THE DROUGHT OF 1901—THE OTHER EXTREME—WATERS ON A TEAR.

The election of 1900 was hotly contested, but the excitement which attended the campaign of 1896 was not in evidence to the extent that it was when Bryan and McKinley were before the people the first time. William McKinley was the Republican candidate for president and William Jennings Bryan had again been nominated by the Democrats. Jasper county went Democratic, but by a reduced majority over the vote of four years before. The result was as follows: Bryan, 9,640; McKinley, 8,741.

At this election the following candidates were successful: Representative of Eastern district, Thomas Hackney; representative of Western district, Obe Whitmere; sheriff, Ab Rich; collector, Robert A. Wilson; associate justice Eastern district, Henry Adkins; associate justice Western district, J. A. Ristine; treasurer, Wm. Lochrie; assessor, Sherman Qualls; surveyor, T. V. Grebe; public administrator, John Armstrong; coroner, Dr. W. A. Dumbald.

The election of 1902 was a Republican victory, the vote on the general election being: Republican ticket, 7,240; Democratic, 6,779. A mixed county ticket was elected as follows: State senator, Hugh McIndo; representative Eastern district, W. R. Logan; representative Central district, Charles E. Elliott; representative Western district, R. N. Graham; presiding judge of county court, C. W. Dykeman; associate justice, Eastern district, E. Hubbard; associate justice, Western district, Allen Dixon; prosecuting attorney, A. H. Redding; circuit clerk, A. F. Carmean; county clerk, L. L. Ashcraft; recorder, T. B. Hobbs; sheriff, James T. Owen; collector, S. J. Chitwood; treasurer, C. J. Smith; coroner, C. A. Eames; public administrator, J. W. Sennett.

The 1904 campaign was by far the most exciting of the decade, on account of the intense feeling in the Democratic party over the gubernatorial nomination centering between Mayor Reid of Kansas City and Circuit Attorney Jos. W. Folk, of St. Louis. The intense feeling in the Democratic party caused a bitterness that was kept at white heat during

the entire campaign, and resulted most logically, in a Republican landslide.

On November 6, 1906, the county officers elected were as follows: Prosecuting attorney, H. Compton; circuit clerk, A. F. Carmean; county clerk, Lon. L. Ashcraft; collector, Robert M. Sloan; recorder, J. B. Chaffee; treasurer, J. B. Yaryan; presiding judge, C. W. Dykeman; associate judge, Western district, Allen Dixon; probate judge, Edward E. Hubbard; coroner, Ernest H. Baird; representative Eastern district, A. Clay Stemmons; representative Central district, Samuel F. Clark; representative Western district, James Roach.

The county officers elected November 3, 1908, were as follows: Prosecuting attorney, Byron Coon; circuit judge No. 1, Henry L. Bright; Circuit judge No. 2, David E. Blair; coroner, Ernest H. Baird; sheriff, Arch McDonald; Assessor, Ed. H. Chitwood; treasurer, J. B. Yaryan; surveyor, W. H. Kohlman; public administrator, Rob. N. Alexander; associate judge, east district, J. A. Wright; associate judge, west district, Allen Dixon.

On November 8, 1910, the county officers elected were: Prosecuting attorney, William Andrews; circuit judge, Joseph D. Perkins; county judge, Eastern district, J. A. Wright; county judge, Western district, Allen Dixon; probate judge, N. H. Kelso; circuit clerk, Della Sharp; county clerk, L. H. Thomas; county collector, R. L. Sloan; recorder, Frank B. Logan.

#### JASPER COUNTY VOTES FOR LOCAL OPTION, 1910

In 1910, and largely on account of the temperance agitation of the Rev. W. A. Sunday, who had conducted a very successful revival at Joplin in November and December, 1909, the county voted on the question of local prohibition. Joplin, Webb City, Carthage and Cartersville voted separately on the question. The campaign was short but very exciting, and the result was as follows: Joplin, 6,504 votes cast, majority against local option, 814; Webb City, 2,506 votes cast, majority for local option, 67; Carthage, 2,176 votes cast, majority for local option, 176; Cartersville, 980 votes cast, majority for local option, 134. The county at large, including the county precincts and all towns excepting the above, cast 4,752 votes and gave a majority for local option of 1,916.

#### THE COUNTY SCHOOLS

In 1899 State Superintendent Carrington prepared a uniform course of study for the rural schools of the state, covering eight years of work and corresponding with the eight years usually covered by the primary and grammar grades of the city schools. As an incentive for using this course of study it was provided that at the close of the school year the grades of the pupils throughout the county should be cast up, and those having successfully completed the eight-years' work were to be granted diplomas by the county superintendent certifying to the fact that they had finished the work mapped out for the first eight years of the state



course of instruction and, on the presentation of this certificate of graduation, the holder was entitled to admission to the Freshmen class of any of the high schools of the state which he might chose to attend.

This course of study was generally adopted by the rural teachers of the county and Superintendent E. D. Dennison put forth every effort to carry to a successful termination the wishes of the state superintendent. Of course the classification of the pupils the first year was a difficult task and required great pains and labor from not only the superintendent but the teachers as well, but after numerous conferences and much hard labor the classification was satisfactorily arranged.

The first class of rural graduates numbered only five, but in the spring of 1901 thirty-eight pupils completed the course. In 1902 the rural graduating class numbered one hundred, and in 1903 one hundred and twenty were successful in passing the examination. This was probably the most important act of Superintendent Carrington, and more than any other one thing raised the standard of the county schools, and Jasper was one of the first six counties to adopt the state course of study.

To give an idea of the importance of the rural graduation we quote from County Superintendent W. B. Colley and State Superintendent Evans, the extracts taken from the annual report of the state superintendent for 1910.

Extract from report of County Superintendent W. B. Colley: "County supervision is not a new thing in Jasper county and in speaking of what has been accomplished by supervision I only wish to share the honor for it with my able and worthy predecessors. There is excellent school sentiment throughout the entire county. The people generally desire to have good schools and desire that their children shall take regular elementary and high school courses. A large number of districts are making extra efforts to have eight month terms. School buildings are usually well kept and provided with a few decorations. Good school houses have been built and most of them have been equipped with good desks, slate or hyloplate blackboards, globes, dictionaries, maps, libraries, etc. The species of rowdyism and vandalism that used to characterize the district school is entirely a thing of the past. Children commonly take their books home to study at night. Attendance and punctuality are generally good. One rural school reported perfect attendance and seven tardies in three months.

"The most pressing needs of Jasper county are consolidated districts, better salaries, and more permanency in the teaching profession.

"The county course of study is used in all rural schools. The rural examinations in the spring together with the eight permanent high school scholarships offered by two of the largest high schools are great incentives to the rural pupils."

#### THE STATE COURSE OF STUDY

Notes from report of State Superintendent W. P. Evans: "The county graduation movement has made fine progress the last four years.

In 1907, there were 2,747 pupils completing the common school course in the state; in 1908, 3,991; in 1909, 6,075; in 1910, 8,801. This shows an increase of 6,054 or 220 per cent. in four years. The number of counties holding graduating exercises, county, township or rural district, has increased from 6 in 1906, to 112 in 1910, or nearly 1,800 per cent. It is this movement that is so largely responsible for the increase in country attendance at the various high schools, academies and normal schools. It has also brought about a more regular attendance and more interest on the part of rural pupils. As matters now stand in Missouri we have the articulated system beginning with the rural school where a pupil completes the eight grades and is given a high school entrance certificate or certificate of graduation. This certificate admits him without examination to any high school in the state. On completing a four year high school course and receiving a diploma, he can enter the University of Missouri or any college without examination, or any normal school with credit. The one weak spot in the system, is the lack of high school advantages in some counties. Hence the pupils completing the eighth grade in these counties must go away from home to get high school privileges. The remedy for this is the consolidated school."

In 1910 a representative of the state superintendent visited a number of the schools of southwestern Missouri with a view of observing the uniformity of the schools of the county and village districts in the use of the State Course of Instruction. In his report to the state superintendent the following Jasper county schools were especially mentioned: Marion school, District No. 62, R. N. Kirby, teacher. No. months in present position, 9. Salary paid, \$60. Vols. in library, 150. Value of library, \$50. Assessed valuation, \$146,610. Estimated value of school property, \$2,500.

Monitor school, District No. 75, R. J. Knight, teacher. No. months in present position, 2. Salary, \$50. Vols. in library, 128. Value of library, \$40. Assessed valuation, \$62,375. Estimated value of school property, \$800.

Prairie View school, District No. 88, Etta Spencer, teacher. No. months in present position, 1. Salary paid, \$40. Vols. in library, 100. Value of library, \$30. Assessed valuation, \$79,750. Estimated value of school property, \$1,200.

High Hill school, District No. 89, Louis H. Keepers, teacher. No. months in present position, 12. Salary paid, \$50. Vols. in library, 180. Value of library, \$60. Assessed valuation, \$79,080. Estimated value of school property, \$1,000.

Zincite school, District No. 96, Jesse L. Pierce and Zella Strater, teachers. No. months in present position, 19. Salary paid, \$65-\$50. Vols. in library, 34. Value of library, \$15. Assessed valuation, \$139,220. Estimated value of school property, \$1,400.

#### JASPER COUNTY TEACHER'S INSTITUTE

From 1887 to 1903 the Jasper County Teachers' Normal had been the approved summer school for teachers and during the fourteen years

that it had flourished had wielded a great influence and had accomplished for the teachers of the county much good. In 1903, however, the Teachers' Normal came to an end and was succeeded by the Jasper County Teachers Association, which was provided for by the legislative enactments of 1903. The law, briefly stated, provided that all of the teachers of the county should attend a county institute to be held on the last three days of either October, November or December of each year; that the teachers shall receive their regular pay for the time spent in attending the institute and that the county superintendent should arrange for these sessions a program of lectures from persons especially fitted or trained in the art of teaching.

The state superintendent in announcing the law to the teachers of the state said: "It is believed that a three days' meeting right in the midst of the term will help teachers more in a practical way than the ten days' institute. School boards should encourage teachers to attend every day of this association and go themselves. The state superintendent will attend every one of these meetings that he possibly can. Someone representing one of the State Normals or the State University will gladly attend and lecture without cost to the association. It is recommended that someone outside of the county be secured for two or more addresses. The state superintendent, each year, will suggest the program. Every teacher should have an assigned part and feel that it is his meeting. At least one session should be given to directors."

These institutes have been very popular in this county and have accomplished much good. The following gentlemen have filled the office of county superintendent during the last decade: 1900-2, E. B. Dennison; 1902-3, Joel T. Livingston; 1903-6, Luther Hardaway; 1906-11, Walter B. Colly; 1911—, L. W. Kost.

Of the above, Superintendent Dennison resigned in 1902 to accept a position as teacher of mathematics in the K. C. Manual Training High School, and Joel T. Livingston was appointed by the governor to fill out the unexpired term.

Luther Hardaway resigned in 1906 to accept a position as assistant chief clerk in the office of the state superintendent and Walter B. Colly was appointed by the governor to fill out his unexpired term.

#### STATE UNIVERSITY S. W. MISSOURI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

In 1903, the Jasper county alumni of the Missouri State University formed an association and invited the former students of the University from all over southwest Missouri to join them in a banquet and school reunion, to be held at Carthage, January 21, 1904. Dr. R. N. Jesse, president of Missouri State University was the guest of honor. The banquet was given at the Elks club rooms which were profusely decorated with the college colors, old gold and black. The tiger, the emblem of the university football team, was much in evidence. The table, which was loaded with good things to eat, was arranged in the form of a



huge letter U and around this were seated the ex-students, who for three hours lived over the good old days of the University life.

Major Craycroft, of Joplin, was the toast master of the evening, and after a few appropriate words introduced Attorney J. M. Dryden, of Carthage, who delivered an address which was partially in the nature of a welcome to Carthage, and partially in the nature of recalling the incidents and events which made the memory of the State University a pleasant recollection. Following Mr. Dryden's address, Dr. Jesse responded to the toast "The College Bred Man." Leslie Rice, of Neosho, gave a most interesting talk of University life. Dr. John B. Lawsen, of Columbia, of the law faculty, responded both eloquently and interestingly to the toast "The Lawyer." Thomas Hackney, a prince of after dinner speakers, concluded the program with a response to "Jasper County and the State University." In this connection it might be added that Jasper county has more students in the State University, than any other of the South West Missouri counties. At this writing the Jasper county students at the University, over fifty in number, have an organization which is very popular and also very useful, known as the Jasper County Club.

#### PURCELL

The town of Purcell was founded in 1903 named after former Sheriff James Purcell of this county. It is situated midway between Alba and Neck City. This town has had a steady growth from its beginning and now numbers among its business establishment a well managed bank.

#### LA RUSSELL

La Russell is another one of the new towns which has been put on the map of Jasper county during the last decade. It is in the central portion of the county and sprang up after the building of the White River line. At first it drew largely from Bower's Mill, one of the oldest towns in the southwest but some three or four miles off from the railroad. Recently, however, the opening up of rich mines near La Russell has made it a very important point.

#### BUILDING A CHURCH IN A DAY

In 1907 the Rev. W. F. Turner, of Quincy, Illinois, formerly of Joplin, with the assistance of two hundred of his congregation, built the framework and principal parts of a church building and the feat was much commented on by the press of the country. At a meeting of the Christian ministers of Jasper county, early in the year 1911, it was determined to build a church at some point in Jasper county and complete the edifice in a day, as an object lesson of what might be done by united and concerted action.

Alba, Missouri, was selected as the place where the house of worship should be built and Tuesday, May 31st, as the day. More than a hundred members of this great denomination appeared upon the scene early



on the day selected, bringing with them hammers, saws, axes, picks, planes, stone hammers and tools of all descriptions and kinds. Among the laborers were the following ministers, who had come from other cities to help in the glorious work of building the temple: D. W. Moore, pastor of the Carthage church; G. J. Chapman, First church, Joplin; J. W. Famuliner, Villa Heights; R. C. Blunt, South Joplin; A. K. Williams, Central church, Joplin; Rev. Mr. Daniels, of Webb City; Rev. Mr. Morgan, Carterville; Evangelists Jones and Meador.

There were also present representatives of all the professions. Business men reported with hammers and nails and crash aprons. There were men who work hard in the ground six days a week. The holiday's leisure may have beckoned to them, but they declined to listen to its lure. They were on hand to assist the completion of a church building in the brief space of a day. Not much time was spent in putting the army to work. The plans had all been formulated. With the ease and precision of thorough organization the big force was detailed to its task. The clatter of labor swiftly and efficiently performed smote the memorial silence. Under the magic of enthusiasm and direction the huge shapeless piles of lumber quickly began to assume the form of building material. Merrily plied the hammers and gayly sang the saw while the crunch of the plane buzzed through the obligato.

Slowly, very slowly, the work seemed to progress during the first hour. Much was being accomplished, but the results had not as yet been assembled, and to the onlooker, if an onlooker had been present, it would have seemed that the impossible had been undertaken. But there were no onlookers. The contagion of the effort was irresistible. Those who came to watch suddenly found themselves involved in the thick of the onslaught, toiling away like beavers. The pace began to tell upon some of the volunteer carpenters to whom manual labor was a novel experience. Again the capable management that directed the operations again asserted itself. The force was divided into squads that worked in relays. As soon as a workman began to show signs of fatigue he was supplanted by a fresh recruit. This relay policy kept the working force continuously at its maximum of energy and of efficiency.

And the building grew.

By 8:30 the dim outlines of the structure could be discerned. And the tangible evidence acted as inspiration to greater endeavor.

Meanwhile the women of the Ladies' Aid of Alba, by whose efforts the church lot had been bought, were busily engaged in preparing a dinner worthy of the occasion. Many of the workers ate that dinner with an appetite such as they had not known in years. The labor of muscle out under the blue sky, with lungs charged with ozone, brought them to the snowy white tables with fine zest. Vast piles of chicken and mashed potatoes and peas and steaming hot biscuits were dispatched and glorious heaps of strawberry shortcake disappeared.

Meanwhile the building of the church never ceased. Still plied the hammers, still the saws sang their songs, a sort of combination of artillery and musketry.

Early in the afternoon the strenuous pace of the day began clearly to manifest itself. Now every hammer-stroke seemed to lend a more definite form to the structure which grew steadily and wonderfully.

It had been planned to hold the dedicatory services at half past 5 in the afternoon. At 10 o'clock in the morning that hope had seemed a vain one, but at 3 in the afternoon everybody was fired with the belief that the program as arranged could be carried out, and in that belief they redoubled their efforts.

And at 5:30 the work had been accomplished, the miracle had been wrought, and a church was standing.

Safely walled and roofed, with the seats in place and an organ on the platform, the service, led by Rev. D. W. Moore, of Carthage, was begun. The invocation was offered by Rev. Mr. Famuliner, of Joplin. Rev. A. K. Williams, of Joplin, read the scriptural lesson and Rev. Mr. Morgan, of Cartersville, had charge of the singing. After a prayer by Rev. G. J. Chapman, of Joplin, there was a short talk by Evangelist Jones, who appealed to the generosity of the congregation—an appeal which brought forth a response in the way of a contribution of \$557.50.

#### SEMI-MILITARY SOCIETIES

In February, 1905, Captain E. E. Spracklin, of Webb City, organized a company of the Uniform Rank of the Woodmen of the World and their splendid drill manoeuvres attracted wide attention. Seven other companies in southwest Missouri, six of them being located in Jasper county, were soon afterwards formed, and these eight were organized into a regiment of which Captain Spracklin became the colonel. The regiment, as a whole, had participated in many Woodmen events and three of the companies have won prizes either at a state or national encampment. The Webb City company in 1908 won first prize in the National contest at Milwaukee.

#### UNIFORM RANK KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

In 1897, Colonel Carl Gray who commanded the Third Regiment of the Uniform Rank K. of P. was promoted to the position of division superintendent of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad and rose by rapid jumps to be the vice president and general manager of this great system. After his removal from Jasper county, no one seemed willing to assume the leadership of his old regiment, which had gained such distinction during the middle nineties, and for a couple of years the Uniform Rank was dormant and did nothing save to hold the charters in the several companies in the regiment. In 1902, a great Pythian wave swept over southwest Missouri and at a meeting held at Joplin in June of that year, the regiment was reorganized. Major Joel T. Livingston of Joplin, was chosen colonel and captain. Henry Wonner, of Webb City, major commanding the First Battalion, which was made up by Jasper county companies. This regiment in less than a year grew to twelve companies

and numbered 450 Sir Knights. Webb City Company No. 11, under command of Captain Fred H. Nesbit, won the greatest distinction, having received from the grand chancellor the distinguished honor of being invited to escort the Grand Lodge to its meeting place at its session in 1903. The invitation was accepted and the manoeuvres of old No. 11 on the streets of Jefferson City, in front of the governor's mansion, sent the Pythians wild with enthusiasm. This company also won first prize at the regimental contest at Monett, in July, 1894, and second prize at the state encampment on the following October. In October, 1903, Colonel Livingston was elected brigadier general of Missouri brigade, U. R. K. P., and Major Henry Wonner was elected colonel of the Third regiment and still holds the position.

#### RAILROADS

During the past ten years Jasper county has enjoyed excellent railroad advantages. In addition to the lines mentioned in our previous chapter, three new roads entered the county, and the Missouri Pacific road made extensive improvements.

The White River line, an extension of the Missouri Pacific, via Carthage, to the cotton belt and pineries of Arkansas, was built in 1904, and has opened to the wholesale interests of the county a rich trade to the east and southeast. The Missouri Pacific extension from Carthage to Asbury also opened to the farmers of the northwest part of the county a new field for trade.

The Missouri & North Arkansas Railway and the Missouri, Kansas & Fort Worth have entered the county, making Joplin their terminus and these two lines have been of great benefit to the county—the one opening a new field for trade on the south and the other bringing the mining district nearer to the coal, gas and oil belt of Kansas and Oklahoma.

#### VISIT OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

On January 3, 1904, the Geological Society of America, comprising eminent geologists and scientists from all over the United States and Canada, visited Jasper county and remained a few days studying the geological formation of the mining district. There were forty men in the party, including the director of the United States Geological Survey and the professors from the leading universities of the United States and Canada. Dr. Robert Bell, of Ontario, Canada, in discussing the visit to the Jasper county district, said that he had not until then realized the immense value of the mineral deposits of southwestern Missouri. Said he: "You will find as time goes on, that your best deposits lie deeper in the ground and that the shallow mining that you are doing now is only play."

#### THE DROUGHT OF 1901

The summer of 1901 went down in history as being the hottest in many years and those who had kept observations of the weather say that



July of that year eclipsed any heated term that southwestern Missouri had witnessed since 1860. From July 1st to the 26th the thermometer hovered around the 100-mark, but one time in the twenty-six days going as low as ninety degrees. The last ten days of this hot spell the heat was very oppressing, the temperature rising a degree each day until on the 25th of the month the thermometer stood at 111.

During this hot spell there was much suffering and likewise great damages to the crops. The exceeding hot weather caused the creeks and rivers of the county to become almost dry. Spring river looked like a little brook. Wells and springs dried up and there was much suffering for the want of water. On the 24th of July there came a rain, however, which brought relief and, though much of the crops were ruined, still enough was saved to make a respectable showing at harvest time.

The day before the rain, the thermometer had stood at 111° and when the night came on there was but little rest to the tired people. At 4:30 on the 26th a little shower came up and, as the day came on, turned first into a drizzle and then into a mighty rain. All during the afternoon the rain descended in torrents, materially cooling the atmosphere and refreshing the thirsty world. That night the people got their first good night's rest in ten days and woke upon the morning of the 27th to find the temperature had dropped to seventy-seven degrees.

#### THE OTHER EXTREME

On the 11th of January, 1905, there came on a severe snow storm, which was followed by a drizzling rain which froze as soon as it touched the ground. The entire surface of the earth was one great skating pond—not figuratively but literally—and the trees and underbrush presented a sight of beauty long to be remembered. Following this coat of ice, which did not melt for two weeks, there came another storm more severe than the first in this—that the temperature went far below the zero mark and hovered around it for most of the month.

February 12th was the coldest day of the year, and was said to have been the coldest since January, 1885. The thermometer on this date (February 12, 1905) ranged in various parts of the county, from twenty-one to twenty-seven degrees below zero.

#### WATERS ON A TEAR

April, 1902, was a very rainy month, so much so that nearly every river and creek in the county was out of its banks. Toward the close of the month a storm came on which almost deluged the county. The rain descended in torrents for almost forty hours, and Spring river and Center creek, which are fed by numerous little streams, both resembled for a time the great Father of Waters. Spring river was higher than it had been for years and it spread out all over the valley on either side, in some places being half a mile wide. Hundreds of people viewed the raging



torrents from the cupola of the court house and it was a most magnificent sight.

When the waters receded and the river returned to its banks, it was found that much damage had been done to the crops, and the scene of grandeur of a few days before was turned into one of disappointment at the fortunes that had been swept down the river by the flood.



YELLOW DOG MINE, WEBB CITY



UNDERGROUND MINING SCENE, WEBB CITY

## CHAPTER XL

### MINING AND BANKING

FIFTEEN YEARS' MINERAL OUTPUT—PRICES FOR TWELVE YEARS—STRIKE AT ORONOGO—BANKS AND BANKING—THE PANIC OF 1907—BUSINESS CARRIED ON BY CHECKS—JASPER COUNTY BANKERS' ASSOCIATION—THE JOPLIN CLEARING HOUSE.

During the last decade, excepting now and then, the old-time methods of mining have disappeared and the modern mill, with its up-to-date machinery and equipment, has taken the place of the old windlass, the horse hoister and the hand jig.

#### FIFTEEN YEARS' MINERAL OUTPUT

The mining industry of the county can best be represented by a citation of the output of the several mines during the decade, and because the great mining industry, of which Jasper county is the center, has so much in common—with other portions of the district. Therefore, for comparison's sake, we include in our table the output of the entire mining district.

Year.	ZINC ORE.		LEAD ORE.		Combined
	Tons.	Value.	Tons.	Value.	Value.
1911	266,377	\$10,398,947	46,244	\$2,656,565	\$13,055,512
1910	296,976	11,926,782	44,419	2,335,422	14,262,204
1909	301,206	12,192,770	44,186	2,420,878	14,613,648
1908	259,598	8,917,073	39,119	2,152,896	11,069,969
1907	286,587	12,521,522	42,034	2,898,405	15,419,927
1906	278,929	12,079,602	39,188	3,049,573	15,129,175
1905	252,435	11,334,320	31,679	1,968,480	13,302,800
1904	267,240	9,601,200	34,362	1,886,150	11,487,350
1903	234,873	7,920,520	28,656	1,550,870	9,471,390
1902	262,545	7,973,770	31,625	1,457,120	9,430,890
1901	258,306	6,353,950	35,177	1,617,700	7,971,650
1900	248,446	6,584,290	29,132	1,407,810	7,992,106
1899	255,088	9,590,456	23,888	1,272,008	10,862,464
1898	234,423	6,319,867	26,791	851,947	7,171,814
1897	177,976		30,105	4,726,302	

The following table will give an idea of the several mining districts of Jasper county, the figures showing the total value of the lead and zinc output for 1911:

Joplin .....	\$2,885,842
Webb City, Carterville .....	5,256,982
Duenweg .....	777,895
Alba—Neck City .....	691,372
Oronogo .....	474,264
Cave Springs .....	189,241
Reeds .....	5,650
Carthage .....	69,006
Sarcoie .....	51,340
Carl Junction .....	191,194

#### PRICES FOR TWELVE YEARS

The following table shows the highest and average prices per ton of zinc and lead during the past twelve years:

Year.	ZINC.		LEAD.	
	High.	Average.	High.	Average.
1911 .....	\$54.50	\$39.03	\$64.00	\$57.42
1910 .....	52.00	40.18	58.00	52.57
1909 .....	55.00	40.47	60.00	54.78
1908 .....	47.00	34.40	66.00	55.03
1907 .....	53.50	43.68	88.50	68.90
1906 .....	54.00	43.30	87.00	77.78
1905 .....	60.00	44.88	80.00	62.12
1904 .....	53.00	35.92	62.00	54.80
1903 .....	42.00	33.72	60.50	54.12
1902 .....	42.00	30.33	50.00	46.10
1901 .....	34.00	24.21	47.50	45.99
1900 .....	38.50	26.50	56.50	48.82

#### MINING EXHIBIT AT THE LOUISIANA EXPOSITION

At the World's Fair, 1904, the mining industry of Jasper county was well advertised, five train loads of specimens being sent from the mines of the district. The feature of the exhibit was a mill in operation, where the visitors were shown the manner in which the mineral product was prepared for the market. At this mill was a representation of a mine from which the mineral was hoisted with the full equipment of an up-to-date mill, crusher, steam jig and all.

#### STRIKE AT ORONOGO

twenty-four dollars a ton, in 1897, to sixty dollars in 1899. Very naturally the miners felt that they were entitled to a substantial raise in

As mentioned in our mining article of the nineties, "jack" was from



wages and at Oronogo in May, 1900, went on a strike for higher pay. The strike was attended with no riots. The miners simply quit work and the miners throughout the district did not rush in to take their places. The Granby Company which controls most of the mines at this place arbitrated the matter with the miners and the following sliding scale of wages was agreed to: When jack sold for less than twenty dollars a ton, miners were paid \$1.75 a day; when it sold from twenty to thirty dollars a ton, \$2.00; from thirty to thirty-five dollars, \$2.25; from thirty-five to forty dollars, \$2.50; and so on for each five dollar raise in the price of jack an additional twenty-five cents per day was added to the pay of the spade hands, tub men, etc.

#### BANKS AND BANKING

The banking interests of Jasper county have grown to such importance that, we prefer, on account of the conditions peculiar to this last decade, to treat them as a whole, rather than make separate comment of them in the history of the different cities and towns.

Fourteen new banks were organized and have added not only great strength to the county in a financial way but have greatly facilitated the transaction of business. We have to record the failure of one bank, the first bank failure in the county since the panic of 1893, to-wit, the Joplin Savings Bank. With this single exception the banks of the county have flourished.

#### THE PANIC OF 1907

In 1907 Jasper county was enjoying unbounded prosperity. Jack was commanding a good price and in all of the mining communities there was great activity. The people in the farming districts were prospering, and in the cities especially—Joplin, Webb City and Carthage—there was a pronounced building boom. The demand for houses made real estate in great demand and everything was life and activity in the business world. Early in October the failure of the Manhattan Trust Company, of New York City, threw the county into the wildest excitement, and it was feared that many of the large financial institutions of the metropolis would go to the wall. The banks in the exchange cities declined to ship money to their correspondents in the country and for the two-fold purpose of (1st) preventing a run on the banks and thus plunging the country into a great financial disaster and (2nd) of carrying on the business of the country, the following plan was adopted by most of the banks of the county:

(1) The people were asked to pay all of their obligations with checks—that is, if they had a bank account, and these checks, based on the credit at the bank, served as a medium of exchange.

(2) Each customer at a bank was permitted to draw in money during the week twenty per cent. of his deposit, but no more than fifty dollars was paid to any one person.

The great majority of the people saw that to embarrass the banks at

this time would mean great disaster to the people and quickly dropped into the plan proposed, to meet the situation until the banks of the large cities could work out a plan to meet the emergency.

#### BUSINESS CARRIED ON BY CHECKS

For the convenience of carrying on the business of the county the mine owners and other large employers issued a number of small checks to their employees in payment for their wages. To illustrate: At the Yellow Dog mine, Webb City, checks were issued in two dollar denomination and for fractional parts. If the miner had earned \$17.50 for the week, he received eight \$2 checks and one of \$1.50, and with these he could easily pay his grocer, butcher, milkman, etc., and at each place receive a little change for incidentals. At other places the checks were split up, as the wage earner desired it.

After the first week of the panic the banks of the county issued cashiers' checks in \$1, \$2 and \$5 denominations and these served as a medium of exchange until January 1, 1908, when all of the banks began to pay out the real money over the counter and the panic, save the effect, was at an end.

The panic brought on some unique and interesting situations, and we mention a few of them here.

Several of the large firms, such as Newmans in Joplin, and Humphry, at Webb City, also issued their personal checks for the purpose of expediting the business of the community. To illustrate: The customer desired to buy a hat—say that would cost \$3—and tendered in payment his wage check. This was accepted and in return for the balance the purchaser was paid one or two of the firm's \$1 and \$2 checks and some money. These personal checks were accepted without protest and were counted as good as a bank draft.

Most everybody wanted to get rid of the checks and cashiers' checks, and so the people bought as much, if not more, than before the panic came on, and as the merchant at the bank received credit for all these cash items the business of the county went merrily on.

All of this carrying on the business of the community on paper brought on an immense amount of bookkeeping at the banks. It will be readily seen that as it takes as much labor to enter a check for \$2 as one for \$20, there would be about five times the amount of labor in handling a \$20 payment of wages, because there would be perhaps five checks in small denominations issued to cover the amount paid. It was no uncommon thing for the bank clerks to labor late into the night in disposing of the day's business, especially the Saturday and Monday's work.

Until the panic all of the banks of the county kept open on Saturday night, and, in the mining towns especially about one-fourth of the business of the week was transacted. All of the stores kept open until late and the scene of activity was a sight worth going miles to see. The stores were crowded and the streets packed. When the panic came on, however, it was thought best not to open the banks on Saturday nights.

and since then the banks throughout the county have thought that the business could be handled satisfactorily without the Saturday night opening. Two banks in Carterville and four in Joplin have returned to the Saturday night opening and transact a general banking business from 7 to 8 o'clock. Quite a number of the banks which did not return to its old plan, encouraged their customers paying large numbers of men to use the envelope system and pay the men at the mines and factories in money. This, of course, does away to a certain extent with the demand for the Saturday night opening.

#### JASPER COUNTY BANKERS' ASSOCIATION

The panic brought into existence the Jasper County Bankers' Association which, during the panic, held many sessions, looking to a satisfactory solution of the great problem then before the people. This association, at its organization, agreed that in the event of a run on any bank to come, as a body, to the rescue, and so complete was the understanding, and so splendidly did each bank do its part, that at the close of this unfortunate financial disturbance every bank was as solid as the day the storm broke loose; in place of having lost deposits, they had increased them and, excepting for the unpleasant memories of the strenuous ten weeks that followed the failure of The Manhattan Trust Company of New York, the banks of Jasper county came through without the loss of a dollar to either the depositors or stockholders and as strong as the everlasting hills.

The following banks compose the Jasper County Bankers' Association: Bank of Alba, Alba; Bank of Carl Junction and Citizens' Bank, Carl Junction; First National Bank and Miners' Bank, Carterville; Bank of Carthage, Carthage National Bank and Central National Bank, Carthage; Farmers & Merchants and First National Banks, Jasper; Citizens' State, Conqueror Trust Company, Cunningham National, First National, Joplin National, Joplin State, Joplin Trust Company and Miners' Bank, Joplin; Bank of LaRussell, LaRussell; Bank of Neek City, Neek City; Bank of Oronogo, Oronogo; Bank of Purcell, Purcell; Bank of Reeds, Reeds; First National Bank of Sarcoxie, and State Bank, Sarcoxie; Merchants & Miners' Bank, Mineral Belt Bank, National Bank and Webb City Bank, Webb City.

#### THE JOPLIN CLEARING HOUSE

The banks of Joplin, at the beginning of the panic of 1907, organized, for the purpose of better handling the perplexing financial situation, a clearing house and its operations were highly successful and very greatly assisted in maintaining confidence among the people.

The seven banks of the city guaranteed each other credit and issued, in place of the cashiers' certificates, which had circulated for the first few days of the financial flurry, clearing house certificates which were guaranteed by the Clearing House Association.

For each seventy-five dollars of the clearing house certificates issued one hundred dollars of either bonds or approved securities were deposited with the finance committee of the Clearing House and were pledged to secure their payment. This gave the clearing house certificates an air of stability which marked them gilt edge and these were taken, not only in Joplin but by surrounding towns and not infrequently found their way to the banks of the exchange cities, everywhere passing at par.

The clearing house was found to be such a convenience in handling the business of the city that its organization has been maintained and the daily balances of the banks' daily clearings are settled through this medium. The officers of the clearing house from its organization to now have been: President, John A. Cragin, of the First National Bank, and manager and secretary, J. A. Garm, of the Joplin National Bank.



## CHAPTER XLI

### OLD-TIMERS FROM EVERYWHERE

LAST REUNION OF JOPLIN OLD SETTLERS ASSOCIATION—PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADDRESS—"OLD SETTLERS' ODE TO JOPLIN"—THE TOASTS AND SPEAKERS—PERSONNEL OF THOSE PRESENT—OLDEST LIVING PIONEER—STATE PICNICS AND ORGANIZATIONS.

The last reunion and annual banquet of the Joplin Old Settlers' Association occurred May 14, 1905, and although the supper was excellent and the after-dinner speeches fine, there was a touch of sadness that crept into the banquet hall and set the pioneers thinking of the "city not made with hands." During the year that had passed since the last gathering of the association, nineteen of the members had answered the summons of the Great Master Workman and the president, William Carter, who had been the leading spirit in arranging the details of the several banquets which had been given, on taking the chair was greatly affected when he looked around the room and noted the many vacant chairs and, being somewhat indisposed, was obliged to leave the hall before the exercises of the evening were concluded.

Eighty-seven members of the association attended the reunion—and from eight to nine—the remnant of the old guard were boys again and lived over the exciting days of the early seventies by swapping yarns and telling reminiscences of the days when Joplin was the "real thing" and a red-hot mining camp.

#### PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADDRESS

At 9 o'clock President Carter rapped for order and began the program with a welcoming address. He spoke as follows: "My old acquaintances, neighbors and friends, at no time in my life has it been to me a greater pleasure than that which is mine tonight, in the opportunity and privilege of meeting, greeting and welcoming, you all here now. Somehow, I am admonished and have in thought a conviction that my participation in this night's celebration of the eleventh annual banquet of the Joplin Old Settlers' Association will close that part of all that has been mine in the life of the association. To me all these annual meetings have been a distinctive and highly appreciated pleasure and now standing where one year ago I stood in the presence and the happy mingling with my old neighbors of a century, there wells up in my heart a deep feeling of gratitude and love for all.

"The honor you have so repeatedly extended through the eleven years of our association's life has to me a meaning, and here and now I beg to repeat and emphasize the assurance of my dear and sincere appreciation, and I have not now words adequate to express my gratitude and thanks.

"To meet as we have to renew old acquaintance and friendship, to buttress, to strengthen, to add to our ties of love for each other, to open the page in our record book where are written the names of our illustrious and loving dead, is an obligation to halt a moment in sad and sorrowful thought in memory of these grand and noble men, our city's proudest, bravest, best; revered and loved by all—men who blazed the way, who laid the foundation and made possible the building of our great proud city; men whose worth, whose clean hearts, generous and spotless characters and boundless energies; men whose lives and character enriched our city and state and who stand today exemplars of grandest worth and goodness; men who just a little while ago were with us on our banquet nights, cruelly touched with death's merciless hand. They are sleeping now, and this banquet hall is tinged with sorrow. Reverently we bow and drop a tear in saddened memory of these worthy, these splendid men. To meet, to keep green the memory of the dead, to seek and cherish a kindlier thought and warmer heart for the living, is your purpose, your inspiration here tonight.

"Mankind has never known, nor can it know, a loftier, purer or nobler incentive. So now I beg again to repeat the word, welcome! Yes, a hundred times thrice welcome, greetings and congratulations around this banquet table, with your boundless store of cheer and love, within this splendid and inviting hall, odorous with the sweets of your rich and bounteous banquet spread, I bid you mix and mingle, celebrate, make merry, dedicate, make memorable this old settlers' eleventh annual banquet night!

"You know your rights, your duties here. The public know; you dare maintain and do them. Take off the limit and play your night festivities open. Let your joy be boundless and unconfined! Tell yarns (lies, if you will) of Joplin's early, wild and wooly days. Do any old thing, of all sorts and sizes in your own old way, remembering always to do the right, but keep an eye on Captain Bartlett, Reinmiller and Pearson; for they will entice you to follow them into ways that are dark and tricks that are vain. With my heart pulsing with love and my sincerest, best wishes for the health, long life, prosperity and happiness of every member of Joplin's Old Settlers' Association here assembled, I now assign you to the care and tender mercies of your own and only toastmaster, the Hon. Clark Craycroft."

Captain Carter's address was received with tremendous enthusiasm and when the nominations for president of the association were announced, as the next order of business, Captain E. O. Bartlett named Captain Carter and asked all in favor to rise. Everybody did, excepting Mr. Carter himself. However, he thanked the men present for the honor and said: "I ascribe this show of sentiment to a sympathy, to long ac-

quaintance which you hold for me. Such encouragement will at least add a few more weeks to an old man's life."

For secretary, G. W. Koehler was placed in nomination and unanimously elected. Koehler appeared too busy selling groceries to make a lengthy speech of acceptance, but he thanked the association in appropriate terms for the honor.

On motion of C. E. Cox, the president was empowered to appoint seven vice presidents, one from each ward in the city.

This concluded the business of the evening and President Carter then called Mr. Craycroft to the chair and asked him to preside as toastmaster. The master of ceremonies announced a Dutch lunch, "All sorts" by E. O. Bartlett, and gave forth the mandate to fall to, which was promptly obeyed.

The late arrival of William Norton, one of the old-timers, now living in Columbus, was greeted with a round of cheers from all the guests and he was escorted to a place of honor near the front.

At 10 o'clock, Toastmaster Craycroft again rapped for order and a report from the mortuary committee was heard. Attorney John W. McAntire read the report, which deplored the death of the following old settlers since the last annual meeting: F. M. Redburn, P. Quinn, Ira Creech, D. H. Gilbert, John Delany, T. J. Patterson, T. A. Fields, J. B. Glover, Sr., Thomas Heathwood, E. B. Leonard, John H. Taylor, C. P. Molloy, J. W. Moore, Dan Collins, L. R. Nugent, J. W. Stephenson, H. Conley, H. Wear and Sylvester Huffman.

Resolutions of condolence were ordered spread upon the records of the association and sent to the surviving relatives of the deceased.

#### OLD SETTLERS' ODE TO JOPLIN

D. K. Wenrich, the poet of Joplin, and C. M. Miles and W. S. Taylor then sang the following "Old Settlers' Ode to Joplin," which is one of his many popular productions:

Joplin! It was with thee  
We placed our destiny,  
Long years ago,  
We've learned to love thy ways,  
As though from childhood days;  
Our hearts will all the praise  
On thee bestow.

Thy bounties we have shared,  
And happy homes prepared,  
So manifold,  
Thy gates have opened wide,  
To folks on every side,  
That they may too abide  
Within thy fold.

Friend unto friend we've been,  
 Bonded by love within,  
 From year to year;  
 While side by side we've dwelt,  
 At the same altars knelt;  
 Each joy and sorrow felt  
 For friends so dear.

The blade of Time's removed  
 Some of our friends we've loved,  
 While we remain  
 As pilgrims here below,  
 Waiting our time to go;  
 Yet, sweet it is to know  
 We'll meet again.

#### THE TOASTS AND SPEAKERS

"Joplin's Early Police Courts, and How They were Run," was the toast responded to by Judge W. B. McAntire, who was among the first judges of the city. Judge McAntire spoke in part as follows: "Our number is passing swiftly; a short time and this entire assembly shall have passed away. There was a time when our hair was not gray. Now it is a question of gray hairs or no hair at all! (Applause.)

"In my period of residence, the record of achievement and progress looms up like a mountain," Judge McAntire continued, and he related numerous anecdotes of the early days, when music, dancing and fights took place nightly and when there were dangerous men in the then rough and growing community. Joplin was then truly a "wide-open town." E. R. Moffett was mayor; T. J. Howell, police judge, and George De Orner, city attorney; they were appointed by the governor under a special charter provided for the city of Joplin. Following their term, Lee Taylor was elected mayor and J. W. McAntire, city attorney. William Lupton was city marshal. Judge McAntire told an amusing story of how Lupton refused to give up the office when William McCracken was named to succeed him and of how he locked that gentleman up in jail, forever curing him of the desire to become city marshal. The speaker told of how W. S. Norton, then city marshal, rode up to a tough character who was holding the other policeman and a crowd at bay and disarmed him without using a firearm. Several other old-time anecdotes, equally spicy, were related by the speaker and his whole talk was very much enjoyed.

Philip Arnold responded to "The Village Schoolmaster," which, besides giving a glowing word-picture of the educational facilities of the early days, was an excellent example of rhetoric, as a schoolmaster's literary work should be. He concluded by exhorting everyone present that he should be fully prepared when the Great Master called on him for the final examination.

"The Early Joplin Lawyer," was L. P. Cunningham's toast, and it was cleverly and eloquently handled. He spoke of the ovations being tendered Roosevelt in the west and of his being as free as any of us, an



American among Americans. "The Lawyer and the people, the people and the lawyer, constitute a covenant to uphold the life, liberty and property of the community," said the speaker in conclusion.

The trio then sang Mr. Wenrich's song, "Long, Long, Ago," and was encoered and responded with "Stand Up for Joplin."

At this point Captain Carter prepared to take his departure and stated to the assembly that he felt he could not go without saying "Good-by." The men in the room listened intently and in sadness.

John W. McAntire responded to the toast "Any Old Thing." On account of the wide range of his subject, Mr. McAntire confined himself to "a few old things." He pointed out the three present who were among the first officers of the city, and recalled the fact that at the next meeting there may be none to whom to refer in this wise. He said, in conclusion: "The clasp of an old settler is to me like the clasp of a brother," and rendered the little couplet

"Make new friends,  
But keep the old,  
These are silver;  
Those are gold."

Judge L. A. Fillmore responded reminiscently to the toast, "The Early Business Man."

"Joplin and Its Future," was eloquently extolled by ex-Mayor John C. Trigg, who could only see brightness ahead for a city of such glorious achievement in periods past.

The trio rendered "My Old Kentucky Home."

The address of Attorney Thomas Dolan, "The Old-time Miner," was ably and conscientiously given and Mr. Dolan paid the encomiums justly due the old-time lawyers, no old-time business men, nor no old-time Joplin.

The association tendered a voluntary offering to Colonel O'Rear, upon whom the ravages of time and adversity have laid a heavy hand. Colonel O'Rear was not present and the offering was presented to him the next day.

The absence of Esquire Brown, who was ill at his home, was noted and deplored by the association.

During the feasting the association had the pleasure of hearing young Percy Wenrich (who is now a composer of note in New York City, but at that time in Chicago, and was born and raised in Joplin) play several piano selections.

#### PERSONNEL OF THOSE PRESENT

The personnel of those present was as follows: W. S. Taylor, born near East Joplin in 1857; J. L. Staab, came in 1875; F. S. Gobar, 1875; Fred Duffelmeyer, 1873; J. H. Myers, 1872; J. T. Bodine, 1875; Julius Henmann, 1876; Lee Taylor, 1871; Charles Miles, 1868; J. J. Breazelle,

1871; C. A. McAntire, born in 1874; Philip Arnold, 1873; C. Schifferdecker, 1875; G. W. Koehler, 1872; Judge W. B. Halyard, 1876; E. O. Bartlett, 1876; C. Craycroft, 1875; Henry Boss, 1871; James Roach, 1876; W. H. Coffee, 1871; Edward Zelleken, 1876; S. Landner, 1875; D. K. Wenrich, 1871; D. M. Page, 1875; J. Roush, 1875; J. W. Reinmiller, 1874; Thomas Dolan, 1873; J. Vancil, 1872; John Funnel, 1873; O. P. Wilson, 1875; Julius Fischer, 1877; L. P. Cunningham, 1877; J. J. Masmer, 1873; G. Weymann, 1877; Henry Weymann, 1876; William Bellar, 1871; James Cressman, 1873; Robert Wilson, 1875; H. B. Farnham, 1875; W. E. Gobar, 1875; John Ferguson, born 1878; Calvin Nichell, 1872; J. C. Gaston, 1872; R. F. Barker, 1868; A. B. McAntire, 1880, born in Joplin; H. H. Jennings, 1873; Lon Clark, 1871; J. L. Kelley, 1873; S. B. Jones, 1875; L. E. Gillette, 1874; William Carter, 1871; L. P. Wood, 1880; H. L. Chickering, 1876; L. F. Peters, 1876; W. E. Hamm, 1873; Ch. Guengerich, 1873; A. B. McKee, 1871; Clarence Lambert, 1878; J. A. Thurman, 1872; Peter Burruss, 1871; W. E. McAntire, 1877; W. H. Picher, 1870; O. H. Picher, 1875; E. R. McCollum, 1871; W. B. McAntire, 1873; S. O. Eells, 1873; J. J. Murphy, 1876; J. W. McAntire, 1872; L. A. Fillmore, 1871; G. W. Koehler, 1873; J. C. Trigg, 1873; E. Gobar, 1875; Jacob League, 1872; C. W. Dykeman, 1871; A. L. Stephenson, 1876; Clarence Shortess, 1873; Lloyd Burruss, 1872; J. S. Reynolds, 1871; J. C. Burgess, 1871; L. H. D. Freeman, 1874; Peter Schnur, 1871; W. J. Leffen, 1873; Sam Reynolds, 1871; W. J. Beall, 1872; A. W. Carson, 1876; N. Zenter, 1876; Gordon Allen, 1875.

Before the time for the next annual meeting President William Carter, of the Old Settlers' Association, passed to the great unknown, and his death occurring about the time when arrangements for the annual event should be made, out of respect to his memory the banquet was postponed to a future date and since then no one has felt called upon to assume the duties of leader and take the initiative for a reunion. Thus the banquet at the Germania Hall, May 14, 1895, was the last given and the association has been together in a body since then, only to assist in the burial of the members as they, one by one, have passed away.

#### OLDEST LIVING PIONEER

At the date of the writing of this history, J. N. U. Seela is the oldest living pioneer, having come to Jasper county in 1883. A short time ago a representative of the *Joplin Daily Herald* visited Mr. Seela at his home and obtained from him the following little interview which we print with the paper's consent on account of its historic incident.

When interviewed Mr. Seela gave an interesting account of early days here. He regards them as the "good old days." "In those days everybody worked," he said. "My earliest remembrance is of hoeing potatoes, by the side of my mother. Mother raised flax and cotton and spun and wove all our clothing. Brother and I used to sit in front of the fire place and seed the cotton for her and twist it into a long loose rope, for the spinning wheel. Often the blaze from the logs would ignite it, and then we would have a big blaze.

"We boys wore long shirts which mother made, reaching below our knees. They were wove of the linen and were our only garment. There were no fine dressers in those days. And we didn't have much money. But we enjoyed ourselves more, I think, than people do now. People were more truthful and honorable then. There was more humanity.

"Now-a-days you'll find mighty little humanity. Why, men would come for twenty-five miles, in those days, to a house-raisin'. Now a man wont do a thing for you unless you pay him well. I have hewn logs many a time for a neighbor's cabin. I used to know the number of logs it took to raise a corner and could go into the woods and split the exact number for a cabin. I've reared the corner of a cabin by myself. But I couldn't do it now."

Mr. Seela is still strong and does the greater part of the work about his farm.

Speaking of their foods, Mr. Seela told of the first sugar he ever saw, when he was a grown young man. It came in cakes and was whittled off for use. Honey was the only "sweetening" they had, save for maple syrup in the springtime. But only a few sugar maples grew along Center creek. The woods, however, abounded with bees and honey was plentiful. Coffee was bought at ten pounds for a dollar, green, and often the unopened burs were sprouted.

A tuition school located on Center creek, supported by Barry county's farmers, was taught by the more learned of the districts settlers. But, as Mr. Seela declared, his first teacher hardly knew his A. B. C's.

In 1854 Mr. Seela, with his wife and baby boy, moved to the old homestead on which he now lives, and erected his one roomed log cabin. Grass then covered the site of Carthage and the county's court house. On the north side of what is now the square, George Hornbeck then had a general store. Here farmers of the surrounding country obtained their provisions.

Mr. Seela's farm was the scene of skirmishing during the Civil war, and the old cabin in which he and his wife first settled, was burned by pillaging parties.

The story is told of one woman, who had no rolling pin and used a large ear of corn to roll dough for her bread.

Brooms were made either of bunches of buckbrush tied together, or from a straight stick of hickory, whittled at one end to be small enough for handling, with the other split into fiber. A band of the bark was left at the top of the brush part to prevent further splitting.

There were no matches and fire was struck with steel and flint. The spark was directed to a turf of dry flax lint which it ignited.

But when a light was needed it was from a tallow dip. These were made by frying out the fat of deer or bears and having it melted in a pot. Then a row of strings was suspended from a stick and dipped into the grease and pulled out. The fat that clung to the string soon cooled and it was dipped quickly into the melted fat and again withdrawn. This was repeated until each string was surrounded with a thick layer

of grease. Then they were cut loose from the stick and laid away. The string in the center served as a wick and these tallow dips made very good candles.

A simple substitute for a mouse trap was devised by one settler, with the aid of a thimble and a saucer. The thimble placed under the rim of the saucer small end down, with bait attached, proved to be an effective device and no mouse was the wiser.

Deer were plentiful, and furnished the main portion of meat for the earliest inhabitants. The fat was used for lard. Each autumn, hunting parties of Indians invaded this country until it was well settled, in search of deer.

Butter, milk and eggs were as scarce as they have been in Chicago recently and when procurable, were of such high prices that would make today's sufferers from the "high cost of living" thankful that they weren't pioneers of a half century ago. Sixty-five cents was the price of a pound of butter in the latter '60's, while the price of eggs per dozen was half a dollar. Milk was sold at 30 and 35 cents a gallon, but was scarce.

Preachers were even more scarce. Almost every settler had his Bible, and those who could read, spread the gospel teachings among their neighbors. The preacher of the neighborhood was one of the farmers or a carpenter, on weekdays. But even when a preacher could not be procured, gatherings were held on the Sabbath, with the men and women of the country leading the service of worship.

#### STATE PICNICS AND ORGANIZATIONS

In this day of rapid transportation a man in a busy career may be called far from his boyhood home, and although we are a cosmopolitan people and easily adjust ourselves to changing conditions and scenes, and, as Eugene Field in his charming poem, "John Smith," says:

"Just which John Smith you are, I really can't recall,  
And somehow I like to think that you must be them all;  
And so you are, for whether your crest be badger, bear, palmetto,  
sword or pine,  
Yours is the glory of the stars that with the stripes combine.  
Or mebbly Colonel Smith you are the gentleman I knew,  
Who came from the state where Democrats and the finest horses  
grew,  
Where ladies are all beautiful, and where the crop of corn  
Is utilized for bourbon, true awters there are born."

But while we are all Americans and love this great nation of ours and feel at home any place where the stars and stripes float, still now and then our minds wander back to the old homestead and in our dreams, at least, we live over the days of our youth.

The year 1900 was noted for the organization in this county of a number of state societies, when the people from other states than ours came



together, renewed acquaintances and talked over the great accomplishments of their native counties and towns.

The first of these State Picnics was held by the people who came from the blue grass state.

The Kentucky Association was formed at Lakeside Park in August, 1900. At the Kentucky picnic Hon. W. J. Stone was the orator of the day. A permanent organization was formed, with Capt. C. H. Price, of Webb City, president; A. L. McCalley, of Carthage, secretary, and Dr. A. B. Freeman, of Joplin, treasurer. This society has since had a number of delightful gatherings.

The Hoosiers and the Buckeyes also both formed state societies and held a state reunion at Lakeside that year. Major John B. Lloyd was the first president of the Indiana Society and R. T. Stickney, president of the Ohio reunion. At the Ohio picnic it was found, on the examination of the roster, that three brothers, John, Joseph and Henry Cather, were the oldest Buckeyes in attendance, they having come to Jasper county from Ohio in 1848 and resided continuously in the county from then to now.

## CHAPTER XLII

### GENERAL JOPLIN MATTERS

EXTENSION OF CITY LIMITS—CITY CENSUS IN 1905-10—THE CITY PARK SYSTEM—EAST JOPLIN IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION—JOPLIN'S FIRE DEPARTMENT—MUNICIPAL OFFICERS, 1900-11—JOPLIN AS A CONVENTION CITY—REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION, 1902—DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION, 1904—NEWSPAPERS—RAILROADS AND NEW UNION DEPOT—THE HEIM STREET CAR LINE.

During the past ten years Joplin has taken many forward strides in the matter of municipal advancement. It has voted a permanent tax for the support of a free public library, built a new and commodious city hall, enlarged its electric light plant and built a viaduct over the Kansas City Southern Railway tracks on Third street. It has paved many miles of streets and caused to be laid over fifty miles of sidewalks. Many matters of civic improvements are still fresh in the minds of the people and for the lack of space we will not attempt to set them all down at length. We will, however, mention a few of the most important municipal improvements which had much to do in shaping the destinies of the city or adding materially to the happiness and comfort of the people.

#### EXTENSION OF CITY LIMITS

In 1900 there sprang up west of the city a new camp which came into great prominence and, like Blendville on the south, grew with such rapidity that it became necessary to establish some form of local government. The new camp was called Chitwood and at first grew up among the mining properties of L. P. Cunningham and the King Jack and John Jackson mines. It took its name from a Chitwood Hollow.

Chitwood was incorporated as a village and for a time maintained a city government and its schools attained a state of great excellence. In 1908 the city limits were extended to the west, so that Chitwood was taken into the city of Joplin and is now the eighth ward of the city and at this same election Villa Heights, on the east, was taken into the city and is the east district of the first ward.

#### CITY CENSUS IN 1905-10

A special census of Joplin, taken in January, 1905, showed that the city had a population of 31,582. The United States census of 1910 showed the population to be 32,073.

The estimated population of Joplin at this writing, based on the school census taken in 1911, which showed a great increase over 1910, is 35,000.

#### THE CITY PARK SYSTEM

The park system of Joplin had its origin in 1897, when T. W. Cunningham, then mayor of Joplin, gave to the city Cunningham Grove, south of Blendville. This beautiful grove was greatly used by the citizens for picnics and celebrations, and it was Mr. Cunningham's idea to preserve the grove so that the people of the city might have some place in the city limits for gatherings of this kind.

The city at the time had no fund available with which to improve the park, and in 1903, City Attorney P. D. Decker secured the passage of a bill through the legislature authorizing the city, by a vote of the people, to levy a tax for park purposes. The matter was submitted to the people at the general election of 1904 and carried.



VIEW IN CUNNINGHAM PARK, JOPLIN

Mayor Cunningham, who had again been called to the chair in 1903, appointed the following gentlemen as a board of park directors: C. H. Hand, first ward; H. R. Conkling, second ward; P. A. Christman, third ward; Chas. Schifferdecker, fourth ward; Boone Jenkins, fifth ward; J. A. Graves, sixth ward; W. H. Landreth, seventh ward, and Chris Guengerich and Joel T. Livingston, members at large. The board organized, with P. A. Christman, president; H. R. Conkling, vice president; and Joel T. Livingston, secretary. The board has remained unchanged since its organization, excepting in the person of C. H. Hand, who died in 1907 and was succeeded by his son, Leon H., and he in 1909, by George Linwick. Mr. Conkling removed from the city in 1909 and was

succeeded by W. A. Sanford. Charles Schifferdecker asked to retire from the board, on account of his many private interests, and was succeeded by T. T. Snapp, who filled out his unexpired term and was succeeded by Senator J. T. Dunwoody. Mr. Landreth retired at his own request and was succeeded by J. M. Leonard. Chris Guengerich has been the president of the park commission since 1909.

In addition to the Cunningham Park, which has been greatly beautified, the city has acquired Mineral Park, in East Joplin, and McClelland Park, south of the city near Grand Falls, and has also used, through the courtesy of the Scottish Rite Masons, a small vacant plot at Fourth and Byers. All of these places have been made very beautiful and have been much used. M. F. Keith and R. P. Brown, superintendent and assistant superintendent of parks, have worked untiringly for a more beautiful Joplin and deserve the thanks of the city.

#### EAST JOPLIN IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

In 1893 there was organized in East Joplin a club which has had a great influence on the destinies of the First ward and, largely on account of the agitation started by it, has in the past nine years greatly improved the appearance of this section of the city. The first officers of the club were W. M. Marshall, president, Robert Moore, vice president, A. C. Elliff, secretary.

This club set about to beautify East Joplin and during the years that the club has been in existence something like ten miles of streets have been graded, over six miles of sidewalks have been built and a beautiful park has been added to the ward. Recently, the club has undertaken the proposition of enlarging Mineral Park by extending it west through St. Joe Hollow and south on the east side of Joplin creek to Broadway. This work, if accomplished, will make a beautiful place out of what is now an unsightly spot. Within the bounds of the proposed extension to Mineral Park is the spot where E. R. Moffet and John B. Sergeant sunk the first shaft in the Joplin district; and it is proposed on this site to erect a monument to be made of specimens taken from the mines all over the Joplin district.

#### JOPLIN'S FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Joplin fire department is an institution of which the entire community is proud, and justly, too.

From the time of the organization of the old volunteer fire department down to this day, the citizens of Joplin have tried to keep this organization out of politics and it is freer from political influences than any other department of the city. Among the fire laddies, sterling worth, chivalric deeds and unquestioned bravery is the "pull" which carries them to public favor and places of responsibility.

The Joplin fire department as at present organized is composed of a chief, assistant chief and one hose and hook and ladder company for each of the three fire districts.



Joplin has the distinction of having introduced the automobile fire-fighting apparatus, having been the first city in the world, so far as we are able to ascertain, to purchase an automobile fire hose and hook and ladder truck.

The idea of using the automobile as a means of transporting the fire-fighting equipment originated with Albert Webb, of Joplin, who operated an automobile livery just across the street from the Central fire department. Mr. Webb, as an experiment, induced the city to place a chemical tank and a section of small hose on an automobile and when an alarm of fire was turned in he, with the chief, went to the fire. In nine cases out of ten, they put out the fire before it had gained much headway and, in some instances, were ready to return when the hose company, which was drawn by horses, arrived on the scene.

The worth of such a fire-fighting apparatus was apparent to every one and the city contracted with Mr. Webb for a hose truck—and later purchased complete equipments for the three companies; also an aerial ladder truck for the Central department. The aerial truck is drawn by horses, being so large that the ordinary “auto” is too small.

#### MUNICIPAL OFFICERS, 1900-11

The following officers have served the city during the past eleven years:—

1900: Mayor, J. H. Spencer; city marshal, J. A. McManamy; police judge, J. F. Osborne; city attorney, Joel T. Livingston; city collector, R. A. Wilson; treasurer, J. B. Glover, Jr.; assessor, J. B. W. Roe; clerk, E. C. H. Squire; street commissioner, J. C. Sigers; engineer, S. J. McKee; fire chief, Bracken Wilson; health officer, J. B. Wilim; counselor, C. H. Montgomery.

City Council—H. B. Crossman, Lee Campbell, R. A. Loomis, J. M. Evans, C. W. McAbb, A. F. Donnan, Ralph Danford, Frank Felix, J. A. Brookshire and Benj. M. Stevens.

1901: Mayor, J. C. Trigg; city marshal, T. J. Cafer; police judge, C. S. Walden; city attorney, P. D. Decker; collector, W. A. Kirkpatrick; treasurer, T. A. Cunningham; assessor, C. T. Meloan; clerk, E. C. H. Squire; street commissioner, John Delaney; engineer, S. J. McKee; fire chief, W. G. Pearson; health officer, Dr. W. H. Woodson; counselor, C. H. Montgomery.

Council—Lee Campbell, D. F. Hinds, J. M. Evans, S. T. Davis, A. F. Donnan, T. C. Malloy, Frank Felix, Matthew George, Benj. M. Stevens and M. A. Baylis.

1902: Mayor, J. C. Trigg; city marshal, T. J. Cafer; police judge, C. S. Walden; city attorney, P. D. Decker; collector, W. A. Kirkpatrick; treasurer, T. A. Cunningham; assessor, C. T. Meloan; clerk, E. C. H. Squire; street commissioner, John Delaney; fire chief, J. C. Sigers; health officer, Dr. W. H. Woodson; counselor, C. H. Montgomery.

City Council—D. F. Hines, Lee Campbell, S. F. Davis, A. F. Davis, T. C. Malloy, A. F. Donnan, Matthew George, Geo. H. Redell, M. A.

Baylis, L. B. Cook, Henry Kost, W. H. Houts, J. C. Warren and A. H. Hall.

1903: Mayor, T. A. Cunningham; city marshal, J. A. McManamy; police judge, J. J. Barnett; city attorney, R. A. Pearson; collector, W. A. Kirkpatrick; treasurer, C. W. Bartlett; assessor, C. T. Meloan; clerk, E. C. H. Squire; engineer, S. J. McKee; street commissioner, S. S. Nix; fire chief, J. C. Sigers; health officer, Dr. G. I. Mays and J. F. Myers; counselor, C. H. Montgomery.

City Council—Lee Campbell, A. F. Davis, Geo. H. Redell, L. B. Cook, W. H. Houts, A. A. Hall, D. F. Hinds, Jesse Zook, W. E. Morgan, G. W. Burgess, Henry Kost and E. E. Warren.

1904: Mayor, T. W. Cunningham; city marshal, J. A. McManamy; police judge, J. J. Barnett; city attorney, R. A. Pearson; collector, W. A. Kirkpatrick; treasurer, C. W. Bartlett; assessor, C. T. Meloan; clerk, E. C. H. Squire; street commissioner, S. S. Nix; engineer, S. J. McKee; fire chief, J. C. Sigers; health officer, G. I. Mays; counselor, Geo. J. Grayston.

City Council—D. F. Hinds, Jessie A. Zook, T. C. Malloy, W. E. Morgan, G. W. Burgess, Henry Kost, E. E. Warren, Robert Moore, J. M. Lane, F. A. Rogers, J. F. Dunwoody, James Hancock, Joseph H. Myers, William Cox.

1905: Mayor, C. A. Lyon; city marshal, J. H. Myers; police judge, Byron Bourne; city attorney, E. F. Cameron; collector, H. W. Nash; treasurer, J. A. Becker; assessor, Charles M. Miles; clerk, E. C. H. Squire; street commissioner, E. O. Moats; engineer, W. W. Van Frank; fire chief, Frank Zellars; health officer, Dr. L. I. Matthews; counselor, Geo. J. Grayston.

City Council—R. E. Moore, James M. Lane, F. H. Rogers, J. F. Dunwoody, James Hancock, S. P. Griffin, Wm. Cox, R. E. Coberly, Wm. S. Brown, J. W. Downing, W. E. Morgan, Guy Humes, J. L. Colman, J. J. Wolfe.

1906: Mayor, C. W. Lyon; city marshal, J. H. Myers; police judge, Byron Bourne; city attorney, E. F. Cameron; city collector, H. W. Nash; city treasurer, J. A. Becker; city assessor, C. M. Miles; city clerk, Hiram Phillips; street commissioner, Walter F. Jones; engineer, W. W. Van Frank; fire chief, Frank Zellars; health officer, Dr. Leon F. Hurwitz; counselor, A. C. Burnett.

City Council—John Newton, W. S. Brown, J. W. Downing, W. E. Morgan, Guy T. Humes, J. L. Colman, J. J. Wolfe, R. L. Board, J. W. King, A. F. Donnan, Thomas Kelleher, W. H. Wilson, S. P. Griffin, C. W. Westcott.

1907: Mayor, J. F. Osborn; city marshal, J. H. Myers; police judge, Byron Bourne; city attorney, Clark Nichols; city collector, H. W. Nash; city treasurer, J. A. Becker; city assessor, S. S. Nix; city clerk, Hy Phillips; street commissioner, Andy Ferrick; engineer, Wm. Kohlman; fire chief, J. C. Sigers; health officer, Dr. F. E. Rohan; counselor, John J. Wolfe; police matron, Mrs. Ellen Ayers.

City Council—R. L. Board, J. W. King, T. C. Malloy, Thomas Kelleher, W. H. Wilson, S. P. Griffin, C. W. Westcott, Charles Wells, S. A. Smith, Clarence Shortess, P. W. Hennessey, Guy T. Humes, R. P. Brown, Robert Wear.

1908: Mayor, J. F. Osborne; city marshal, J. H. Myers; police judge, Byron Bourne; city attorney, Clark Nichols; city collector, H. W. Nash; city treasurer, J. A. Becker; city assessor, S. S. Nix; city clerk, Hiram Phillips; street commissioner, Andy Ferrick; engineer, J. B. Hodgdon; fire chief, Frank Chandler; health officer, Dr. F. E. Rohan; counselor, J. J. Wolfe; police matron, Mrs. Ayers.

City Council—D. F. Hinds, J. W. King, T. C. Malloy, N. H. Kelso, W. H. Wilson, W. E. Allen, C. W. Westcott, Bert Mills, Charles Wells, S. A. Smith, Clarence Shortess, P. W. Hennessey, Guy T. Humes, R. P. Brown, Robert Wear, J. C. Freeman.

1909: Mayor, Guy T. Humes; city marshal, J. A. McManamy; police judge, Fred W. Kelsey; city attorney, T. C. Hendricks; city collector, H. W. Nash; city treasurer, J. A. Becker; city assessor, S. S. Nix; city clerk, O. E. Lichliter; street commissioner, W. S. Brown; engineer, J. B. Hodgdon; fire chief, Robert Pearson; health officer, Dr. D. R. Hill; counselor, Mercer Arnold; police matron, Mrs. Ellen Ayers.

City Council—E. B. Edes, J. L. Jones, Ed. Skelton, C. P. M. Wiley, Charles Trusty, J. M. Jackson, Elmer Warren, Bert Mills, D. F. Hinds, J. W. King, T. C. Malloy, N. H. Kelso, W. H. Wilson, Wm. E. Allen, C. W. Westcott, J. C. Freeman.

1910: Mayor, G. T. Humes; city marshal, J. A. McManamy; police judge, Fred W. Kelsey; city attorney, T. C. Hendricks; city collector, H. W. Nash; city treasurer, J. A. Becker; city assessor, S. S. Nix; city clerk, O. E. Lichliter; street commissioner, Geo. M. Hinds; engineer, J. B. Hodgdon; health officer, Dr. D. R. Hill; counselor, Mercer Arnold; fire chief, Robert Pearson.

City Council—C. A. Patterson, Thomas Douglass, T. C. Malloy, Phillip Arnold, Ed. Buxton, Wm. Houts, J. L. Laster, James Teeter, E. D. Eades, J. L. Jones, Ed. Skelton, O. P. M. Wiley, Charles Trusty, J. M. Jackson, Elmer Warren, Bert Mills.

1911: Mayor, J. F. Osborne; city marshal, J. H. Myers; police judge, Fred Johnson; city attorney, Ray Bond; city collector, H. W. Nash; treasurer, J. A. Becker; assessor, R. L. Jefferies; city clerk, Chas. A. Robinson; street commissioner, Wm. Ash; engineer, J. B. Hodgdon; fire chief, R. L. Pearson; health officer, Dr. A. M. Gregg; city counsellor, R. A. Pearson.

City Council—Chas. A. Patterson, Thomas Douglass, T. C. Malloy, Philip Arnold, Ed. Buxton, W. H. Houts, Wm. Hogue, J. T. Teeters, J. F. Wiles, W. A. Miligan, John Seimener, Harry M. Stout, Charles Trusty, John J. Saunders, J. L. Bell, Bert Mills.

#### JOPLIN AS A CONVENTION CITY

During the last decade Joplin has gained an enviable reputation as a convention city and has entertained, with great credit to her citizens,

twenty or more large gatherings, having a state or national character. In all of these assemblages, whether of a political, fraternal, business or social nature, the citizens have joined in helping to extend the glad hand to the city's guests. We chronicle here a dozen of these great gatherings, to the end that the reader may get an idea of the variety and magnitude of the conventions that have been entertained and the manner in which they have been cared for.

#### REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION, 1902

The State Judicial Convention met in Joplin July 15-16, 1902, and was the first state convention of either of the great political parties which had honored Joplin by selecting it as its meeting place. The convention brought to the city more than 3,000 visitors, among them many distinguished members of the party from other states.

The Joplin Club appointed a non-partisan committee of 150 to arrange the details of this convention and to entertain the visitors and, irrespective of politics, every one of the hundred and fifty, half of whom were Democrats, did their part well.

The committee organized by electing John R. Holmes as chairman, and Hugh McIndoo, secretary. It being apparent that the hotels would not house the big throng, the citizens generally threw open their homes and placed them at the disposal of the committee on entertainment.

At that time Joplin did not have a hall large enough to hold the convention. The Club Theatre was being remodeled and an immense tent was ordered from a firm in Kansas City and erected at the corner of Fourth and Pearl, where later the Elks club house was built. This proved to be a most delightful arrangement, for the sides of the big tent were let down and the gentle summer breezes swept over the audience and helped to keep them cool.

The convention was called to order by Hon. T. J. Akins, chairman of the Republican state executive committee, and after Rev. J. B. Welty of the First Presbyterian church, had asked the divine guidance on the convention, Hon. B. F. Russel was announced as temporary chairman. Mayor John C. Trigg extended to the delegates the hospitality of the city and referred feelingly to the fact that, although we might differ in our political views, yet we were all Americans.

After the appointment of the usual committees on credentials, platform, etc., Senator J. R. Burton, of Kansas, was called to the stand and made an eloquent address on the principles of Republicanism. Major William Warner, of Kansas City, and later United States Senator, and we might add perhaps as popular a speaker as ever appeared before a political convention, was called to the stand and made one of his characteristic speeches that set the audience wild with enthusiasm. Hon. Herbert Hadley, of Kansas City, now governor of the state, was also among the speakers and was loudly applauded.

The convention was in session for two days and during the recess the delegates were shown about the city and through the mines by the



local reception committee. The Joplin Club, the Elks, the Eagles and Young Men's Christian Association kept open house and entertained with a lavish hand.

#### DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION, 1904

Two years later the Democratic Sub-National Convention was held in Joplin, June 29-30, 1904, and, like the Republican convention of two years before, brought to the city the Democratic hosts from all over the state. The Democratic was slightly larger than the Republican convention, having about 100 more delegates and brought a few more rooters, for the reason that, as the convention was to select the delegates to the presidential nominating convention, its action in a way helped to mold the destinies of the party at large—that is, as far as Missouri's influence went.

As before, the Joplin Club put itself behind the matter of entertainment and appointed a non-political committee of one hundred and fifty to arrange the details of the convention. The committee organized by the selection of Hugh McIndoo, who had been the secretary of the committee on arrangements for the Republican convention in 1902, as chairman. C. S. Poole was named as vice chairman and Frank L. Yale, secretary. Sub-committees on general arrangements, reception and finance and a bureau of information were appointed and \$1,200 raised to take care of the incidental expenses of the meeting.

The convention was held in the Club Theater, which had been enlarged and remodeled. Hon. W. A. Rothwell, chairman of the Democratic state executive committee, called the meeting to order and announced James A. Reed, of Kansas City (now United States Senator), as the temporary chairman. One of the pleasing features of the opening exercises was a splendidly rendered musical number by the Masonic quartette. Congressman John B. Lloyd was selected as permanent chairman. After the organization meeting, and while the committees were in session, the delegates not engaged in committee work, together with a large number of visitors, went to Barbee Park, where a number of addresses were made on the issues of the day. Hon. W. A. Wallace, of Kansas City, and Hon. Champ Clark, now speaker of the House of Representatives, were the principal speakers.

The city was profusely decorated for the occasion and at night, when the delegates mingled on the streets with the great crowd of people who came in from the surrounding camps to see and participate in the excitement, the scene of the surging mass of humanity was one long to be remembered.

As at the former convention, the Joplin Club, Elks, Eagles, and Young Men's Christian Association threw open their doors and helped to do the honors. It was really a novel, and likewise a pleasing sight to see men like Hugh McIndoo, John Wise, O. D. Royse, Arthur Spencer and Jack Winters, stalwart Republicans,—marching with the reception committee in the line alongside of old-time Democrats—meeting the

trains, showing the delegates to hotels and about the city to places of interest, and taking the same pride in sustaining the reputation of the "city that Jack built" as they did at their own convention.

The Joplin Democratic convention of 1904 instructed its thirty-six delegates to the national convention to vote for Senator F. M. Cockrell for the presidency.

Other conventions will be spoken of in the text devoted to the lodges and business and social events.

#### NEWSPAPERS

The history of Joplin during the last decade would not be complete without a mention of its newspapers. In 1901 the *Evening News* and the *Daily Herald* were consolidated and the publication has since been issued under the name of *Joplin News-Herald*.

The *Joplin Daily Globe*, the founding of which was mentioned in our section of the 'nineties, made rapid strides in the matter of circulation and has grown to be one of the great dailies of the southwest. Special mention of these two papers made in Volume II, the historic data being furnished by members of their editorial staffs, and for this reason we omit further comment here, other than to say that the two papers have wielded great influence in the upbuilding of Joplin, each having a very large circulation.

In 1901 a new paper was started, known as the *Evening Times*, and published by W. G. Hicks until 1911, when he disposed of his interests and retired from the newspaper field. Although the circulation of the *Times* was not as large as the other papers, it was well edited and contained many newsy paragraphs.

In 1911 Gilbert Barbee and Dan F. Dugan, formerly of the *Globe Publishing Company*, together with T. W. Cunningham, S. H. Claycomb and others, organized a newspaper corporation and started the *Joplin Daily Tribune*, the first issue appearing October 14, 1911. L. C. McCarn, one of the original founders of the *Globe*, became managing editor of the paper and Dr. E. C. H. Squires, formerly city clerk and a writer of ability, telegraphic editor. At this writing the paper has built up a large circulation, having passed the 10,000 mark.

#### RAILROADS AND NEW UNION DEPOT

During the past ten years two new roads have entered Joplin, to-wit, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas and Missouri & North Arkansas—and the Missouri Pacific has extended its line to Granby and into Arkansas, via Carthage, along the White river. Three of these roads—to-wit, Kansas City Southern, Missouri & North Arkansas and the Santa Fe (which has a road projected into Joplin) joined in the building of a Union station which secured a franchise from the city under the name of the Union Station Company. The new Union depot is built north of Broadway and east of Maine street, on the site where the first smelter was erected in 1871, and it was a queer coincident that almost forty years to a day

after the smoke began to roll up from the old furnace the first train pulled into the Union station.

Says the *Popular Mechanics* for January, 1912: A striking example of what may be done with the waste of zinc and lead mines has been demonstrated in the construction of the new union station at Joplin, Missouri, the concrete of which is largely made up of flint and limestone tailings taken from the waste piles of the mines in the district. Of the twenty-two parts in the concrete mixture used in constructing the station, fifteen parts came from the mines, ten parts being average tailings, and five parts the fine tailings from the sand jigs, called Chitwood sand. Of the remaining seven parts, three were of river sand and four of cement.

The center portion of the station, built in the old Roman type of architecture, is two stories high. The train sheds and platforms cover 25,000 square feet.

The 'Frisco system have let a contract for the building of an eight story depot and office building, at the corner of Sixth and Main, and should no unforeseen obstacle prevent the carrying out of their plans, this great system will also have a passenger station proportionate to the business it transacts and in keeping with Joplin's enterprise and development.

#### THE HEIM STREET CAR LINE

In 1903 representatives of the Heim interests at Kansas City and F. C. Rollins, of Chanute, Kansas, both asked for a franchise on West Fourth street looking to the building of an electric railway into Kansas. Mr. Heim proposed to build a road from Joplin to Pittsburg and to connect and operate it in conjunction with his suburban lines running from Pittsburg to the neighboring mining camps. Mr. Rollins proposed to build from Joplin to Galena and thence west into the oil and gas belt. The people wanted both roads, but as each desired Fourth street for its terminal it was necessary to choose between the two. After much heated discussion in the council and after several largely attended public meetings at which the people discussed the two propositions, pro and con, a franchise was granted to the Joplin & Pittsburg Electric Railway and the line was in due time built, the first cars running into Joplin in 1907.

In the franchise granted the Heim line a provision was made for the building of several lines into South Joplin, but owing to an injunction gotten out by the Missouri Pacific Railroad prohibiting the electric line from crossing its tracks at Joplin street and Tenth the line has not been extended south as originally intended.

## CHAPTER XLIII

### EDUCATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS

MANUAL TRAINING, MUSIC, AND SUMMER NORMAL—INCULCATING LOVE OF THE BEAUTIFUL—SIZE OF JOPLIN DISTRICT AND TEACHING FORCE—COMPULSORY EDUCATION—THE TRUANT SCHOOL—THE PLAY GROUND IDEA—RECENT ADDITIONS TO SCHOOL WORK—VISITORS' DAY—THE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI—ALUMNI BANQUETS—SCHOOL OFFICIALS—THE JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY—THE CHURCHES OF JOPLIN—FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—THREE COLORED CHURCHES BUILT—BILLY SUNDAY—THE BROTHERHOOD MOVEMENT—THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—JOPLIN CHURCHES IN BRIEF.

The past ten years of Joplin's school history, if written in full, would make of itself not only a large but an entertaining volume. It would show each year the introduction of new and up-to-date methods of education and a gradual increase in school population and percentage of attendance and an expansion in the area of the school district which, as the city spread out, necessarily took in the former outlying territory. Each of the superintendents gave to the schools some progressive policy and stamped his individuality on the city's educational system.

#### MANUAL TRAINING, MUSIC AND SUMMER NORMAL

To J. D. Elliff the school system owes the enlargement of the high school course of study, so that it met the requirements of the State University for a first class high school; also the designation of Joplin as one of the points for the establishment of an experimental Summer Normal, to articulate with the University. Under Mr. Elliff's administration manual training was introduced in the high school and the government established a Weather Bureau at Joplin and placed it in charge of the science department of the high school.

During W. P. Roberts' term of office, music was introduced into the schools and a supervisor elected to look after this work. The matter of better penmanship was also given especial attention and an expert penman employed to supervise this most important branch of work.

#### INCULCATING LOVE OF THE BEAUTIFUL

Superintendent Roberts was also a great lover of the beautiful and to the end that the pupils he taught, in a practical way, the love of home and out-of-door beautification, he secured from the school board an



appropriation to purchase a large quantity of flowers and garden seeds, which were sold to the pupils at cost. The idea proved so popular that the first year of its trial (1904) it was necessary to twice order an additional supply of seeds and, as a result, over six thousand packages were distributed. The effect of this was farreaching in its importance and cannot be overestimated when we think of the joy and the additional beautification which came from the six thousand flower beds which were planted and cared for by the children of the city.

Professor L. J. Hall and Edmund Vert also left their individuality impressed on the school system.

George V. Buchanan, who was chosen superintendent in 1908, has made a strong executive officer and, in addition to introducing many up-to-date methods, has in a most diplomatic manner harmonized all of the different ideas of educational policy and united the several factions who, during 1906-7, created much feeling in public school circles.

Space will not permit a mention of all that we would like to say about the school system of Joplin. We will, however, chronicle a few of the happenings so that the reader may keep in touch with the general character of the work and the school policy.

#### SIZE OF JOPLIN DISTRICT AND TEACHING FORCE

In 1909 the school district of Chitwood and East Hollow, suburbs of Joplin on the west and a part of which had the year before been taken into the city limits, petitioned the city district to be annexed, and at the election of 1909 was formally annexed, adding approximately five square miles to the area of the district and about 600 to the school population.

The school census of 1911 showed the district to have 9,341 children of school age. The annual revenue derived from taxation and public appropriations is, in round numbers, \$175,000. During the year 1910-11 the district employed 172 teachers.

The following table will show the relative importance of the several schools:

School	Principal	Enrolment
Alcott—L. G. Knight		462
Byers—Cora McDonald		275
Central—Walter Colley		465
Columbia—Mildred Drye		257
Emerson—H. C. Kilburn		479
Eugene Field—Ida Linton		167
Franklin—W. E. John		462
Garfield—Louise Kirkham		357
High School—F. H. Barbee		707
Irving—C. L. Spaid		465
Jackson—W. A. Nickell		460
Jefferson—Eva Corlett		285
Lafayette—G. B. Martin		498

School	Principal	Enrolment
Lincoln (colored)—Chas. Brooks		162
Laurel—Minnetta Sanderson		85
Longfellow—Isaac W. Whaley		291
McKinley—W. O. Burns		310
Parr Hull—May Tyler		105
Washington—Frank Barton		652

#### COMPULSORY EDUCATION

At the session of the general assembly in 1903 a law was passed making it obligatory for all pupils over eight and under fourteen to attend school—either public or private—at least four months in the year.

The Joplin Board of Education, in 1905, for the purpose of enforcing this law, employed a truancy officer and also established a truancy school, to which the habitual truants and unruly pupils were sent. S. S. Nix was the first truant officer and enforced the new law with tact and good judgment. When he found children out of school, on account of not being provided with proper clothing and books, he saw to it that means were provided for the same. He personally visited the parents of children not in school and talked with them, not as an officer of the law come to enforce the mandates of the state, but as a citizen and fellow townsman interested in the welfare of the boys.

In nearly every instance he secured the cooperation of the parents and during his first year as truancy officer did not make a single arrest for non-compliance with the law. Mr. Nix was elected city assessor in 1907 and was succeeded by O. D. Billick, who served the district faithfully until 1911, when he retired and was succeeded by S. S. Nix, who was recalled to the position.

#### THE TRUANT SCHOOL

As an experiment the Board of Education established a Truant School in 1905 and placed it under the supervision of R. C. Burns, one of the best teachers of Joplin. The school was a success, so far as results were concerned, but did not prove popular with the people, and the next year Mr. Burns, having accepted the principalship of the Shreveport (La.) school, resigned his position as principal of the Truant school, and it was not reopened in 1906.

#### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

During the decade the school district spent \$175,000 in school improvements, among them being the enlargement of the High School in 1906, which doubled its capacity. The building, although well located and excellently appointed, is now crowded and the matter of building a new \$100,000 High School building is now being agitated and is among the possibilities of the near future.

## THE PLAY GROUND IDEA

Of recent years the school board and teaching force have encouraged the plan of putting on the play grounds apparatus to help make the recreation hour both pleasant and helpful and at three of the schools, viz., Irving, Jackson and Garfield—the pupils have given highly successful entertainments and have raised money and purchased complete equipment for the playground, consisting of swings, horizontal bars, vaulting poles, etc.

## RECENT ADDITIONS TO SCHOOL WORK

During the administration of Superintendent Buchanan, among other things the following have been added to the school work and course of study.

The Manual training department has been enlarged by the addition of a domestic science department, and the work has also been extended into the grades.

A department for the teaching of business methods has been added to the high school and has proved very popular with the people and highly satisfactory to the school.

## THE CADET SYSTEM

It has always been the policy of Joplin to employ each year a few of the high school graduates as teachers, and (be it said to the credit of the schools) most of them have made good. Superintendent Buchanan introduced the following plan for the better training of high school graduates desiring to become teachers. A dozen high school graduates are chosen each fall, according to their apparent natural ability for teaching. Each is located at one of the larger ward schools for the school year at ten dollars a month. The work of the pupil teacher is of three kinds, teaching classes, observing methods, and tutoring. Each cadet teaches four classes, representing four different grades and as many different branches of study. While she hears her classes in the rooms of the various teachers, she is given entire charge of them for the term and held responsible for their progress. At the beginning of the second term she is given four other classes, thus furnishing practical experience in eight different phases of teaching. In connection with her teaching the principal of the building and the teachers under whom she teaches take special interest in her work and offer helpful suggestions from time to time. For further development as a teacher the pupil teacher spends about one-third of her time each day in the rooms of the various teachers of the building, where she is free to observe the methods used in managing classes, hearing recitations, assigning lessons, etc. This gives an excellent opportunity for learning by observation; the safest and surest way of acquiring any art.

## VISITORS' DAY

Visitors' day, which was commenced back in the early 'nineties, has been observed each year during the last decade and the annual occasion brings to the various school buildings hundreds of patrons and has been a source of much good to the schools, for the reason that it has furnished the occasion for the teachers and patrons to come in closer touch, and has no doubt created a stronger school sentiment.

While visiting one of the schools in 1903 the author had the pleasure of hearing from an old-time Joplin teacher the following, very interesting recital of Joplin's First Visitors' day, and we give it here—First, because of its historic interest, and secondly, because the contrast of the methods pursued at this first public examination which occurred “way back in 'seventy-eight.”

During 1878 the pupils in the East Joplin schools did splendid work. The principal, James A. Race, was a scholarly and courteous gentleman and brought the schools up to a high standard of excellence. At the close of the year '78 he hit upon the following plan for Visitors' day and public examination: A committee of twenty-five prominent citizens were appointed to prepare the questions and conduct the examination. T. A. McClellan, Jesse Shortess, F. E. Williams, D. A. Preston and J. W. Henry had charge of the examination in mathematics, and the method pursued by these gentlemen was said to have been the most impartial examination ever given the pupils of the schools. One hundred problems were prepared for the class, which included work in compound numbers, percentage, common fractions, cube root, etc., extending through the entire year's work. These questions were placed in a box and after having been thoroughly shaken up, each pupil drew from the box five problems and passed to the blackboard and solved them in the presence of the visitors. Out of a class of twenty-three, eighteen solved and explained each of the five problems correctly.

The next afternoon the examination in spelling was had, and was conducted by Jesse Shortess, Alford Gensell, and Mesdames Carl Shepherd, D. A. Preston and J. H. Maddy. One hundred words were pronounced to the class as a written test and of these the per cent made by the room of fifty-one pupils was 97.3.

Sides were then chosen up and an old-fashioned spelling match indulged in; words were pronounced in rapid succession for one hour and a half, and when 4 o'clock came, seventeen pupils were still on the floor. During the contest over a thousand words had been pronounced. It will be observed that as there were fifty-one in the room and seventeen on the floor at the end of the contest, only thirty-four words had been missed (when a word was missed the pupil took his seat). This was certainly a record to be proud of. The examinations continued for a week and the tests in history and algebra, grammar, etc., were made in a manner similar to the above.

Among the boys and girls in the class were Abe Scherl, our wide-



awake merchant, Mrs. John Dawson, Mrs. John Staats (nee Emma Shortess), Mattie Ballard, Emma Gillette (Lichtner) and others.

#### THE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

The following is a list of the High School graduates since 1900. (Mention of former classes was made in a previous chapter:)

1900—Maude Danford, Nettie Thornton, Bithel Cofer, Edith Hall, Walser Yale, Maria Estrada, Alta Sanson, Bert Reeves, Essie Forsythe, Clara Gardner, Maude Board, Omer Malsbury, Fred Swartz, Lillie Littleton, Maude Lancaster, C. C. Spencer, Winnie Cowan and Elmer Garey.

1901—Hazel Reece, Carrie Sutton, Opal Stauffer, Phoebe John, Conrad Radley, Maggie Murphy, Margaret Bell, Lola Seanor, Edith Dagley, Agnes Regan, Ralph Hollingshead, Victor Short, Edith Allen, Sallie Halyard, Lillian Cook, Chas. Malsbury, Florence King, Alma Nelson, Capitolia Willim, Henry Howe, Esther Boucher and Clark Nichols.

1902—Effie Lutman, Percy Williams, Chas. Robinson, Mabel Squires, Margaret Hood, Mary Barr, Lena Murray, Phil Arnold, Beatrice Griscom, Bessie Dorsett, Mabel Boucher, Ona Bradley, Echo Willim, Edna Lett, Leon Coffman, Arthur Roach, Clyde Compton, Ira Brighton, Jauniat King, Pauline Donnan, Laura Wideman, Ethel Card, Effie Owen, Callie Logan, Bertha Rambo, William Leggett and Wallie Hurwitz.

1903—Walter Tousley, Gertrude Spencer, Grace Coulson, C. P. Dyer, Sarah E. Jaccard, Naomi A. Marcum, Blanche Forsythe, Olive Hood, Alva True, Wilber Henrichs, William Regan, Mayme Lowrie, Franklyn Hunt, Fred Briggs, Edna Palmer, Arthur Collins, C. A. Briggs, Viola Sayres, Mamie Vawter, Viola Smoot, Edna Gaither, Mary Regan, Nannie Smith, Mabel Hobson, Annie Louis and Ed Cofer.

1904—Clarence Burgess, Newton Bobbitt, Loyd Bunch, Ray Bond, Thos. Cofer, Wiley Corl, John Cassidy, Arnold Cofer, Howard Doane, Orly Freeman, John Gardner, H. A. Henley, Hoyt Miles, Harold Mills, Chris Price, Chas. Rohrer, Leo Wiler, Callie Arnold, Maude Austine, Lola Belle, Frances Clay, Mary Coles, Leona Campbell, Nellie Delaney, Ella Freeman, Maybell Hickman, Estelline Howell, Marion Hebbard, Mollie Greable, Iva Leach, Belva Looker, Inez Looker, Ethel Gaither, Vera Lydard, Elizabeth Meeker, Cody Marcum, Helen Noble, Alma Putman, Ethel Page, Nola Shockley, Flora Lane, Edith Lanyon, Blanche Milton and Goldie White.

1905—Bessie Bonham, L. E. Briggs, Norman Cox, Clarence Tedford, G. Earl Doane, John Grigg, Jesse Lauck, Fred Moore, Herbert Squire, Chas. R. Wilcox, Rose Atwater, Phoebe Branham, Ethel Buchanan, Ruby Burge, Vivian Standard, Imogene Burns, Alfreda Christman, Margaret Ellington, Mamie E. Graves, Elizabeth Grigg, Emma Irene Henderson, Beatrice Hinds, Jessie Louise Hood, Ada Mabel Johnson, Jessie Miller, Edith Lucynda Morris, Alice Herndon Portor, Grace Anna Roy, Florence Skelton, Winnifred Carney, Lola Mildred Wilcox,

Nona A. Williams, Belva Lenore Lett, Beulah Hallis, Nell M. Murray, Mollie Caroline Nelson, Agnes Margaret Regan, Anna Shelton, Beatrice Spencer, Dorothy Maude Walker, Mildred Wilkinson, Lotta Smith and Chas. Watkins.

1906—Birdie Austine, Chas. Goldsmith, Ruby Commons, Ray Crossman, Helen Dieter, Robert Dye, Mary Ebart, Esther Evans, Julia Fones, Geo. Frye, Virgie Homes, Lulu Hancock, Lillian Hills, Oscar Kochtitzky, Shirley Lanyon, Bessie Livermore, Leah Livirs, John Maddy, Jaque McKee, Prentice Reeves, Iva Roberts, H. V. Smoot, Edith Stewart, Frank Burress, Bertha Stark, Edith Smith, J. Robert Treganza, Ray True, Geo. Watkins, Blanche White and Mamie Zellers.

1907—Russell Briggs, Elmer Burgess, John Craig, Arthur Kelso, John McAntire, Weaver Morris, Harry Morrison, Guy Randall, Homer Williams, Virgil Wofford, Bonnie Allen, Ruth Arnold, Frieda Bauer, Pearl Bittick, Georgia Board, Lena Chesnut, Myrtle Corbey, Ethel Downing, Eula Fletcher, Mae Hobson, Leona Johnson, Maude Loomis, Eva McClelland, Winnie McLean, Alma McMichael, Hazel Moss, Effie Meyers, Nellie Neal, Emeline Phillips, Dorothy Putman, Marie Rensenhansen, Florence Serowinsky, Eulah Simms, Vera Skelton, Bernice Walsh, Ethel Whitwell, James Craig, Victor Miller, Irene McVey, Isabelle Zamboni, Eugene Hall, Gertrude Kopelman, Anna Larrabee, Clydia Swarens and Elsie Stewart.

1908—Mildred Belden, Leonette Cassidy, Jean Cox, Leah Chickering, Anna Errett, Lois Ely, Letha Frank, Louis Hamm, Esther Hobson, Niena Isherwood, Nellie Malsbury, Elva Moore, Hazel Summerfield, Wilma Young, Albert Aiken, Geo. Glade, Walter Hale, Mortimer Heidrick, Emmett Lancaster, Fred Morgan, Chas. McLean, Marvin Sprecklin, Othello Smith, Joseph Williams, Rector Green, Stella Smith, Anna Moser, Zelma Rowland, Jessie Wright, Albert Immel, Clara Sandford, Daniel Sandford, Nettie Crossman, Lillie Dam, Ernest Gengerich and Nellie Hazelwood.

1909—Ola Burch, Mary Slutter, Susie Dorsey, Jessie Nibarger, Lizzie Appleman, Mildred Kiegley, Lillian Sharkey, Leonard Power, Eva Kemener, Blanche Barnett, Margaret Bingham, Lillian Brown, Rachael Buchanan, Maidie Burge, Virgil Board, Clarence Burns, Eunice Cassidy, Grace Cogizer, Elizabeth Walsh, Reba Warden, Winifred Coles, Nettie Dagley, Leota Davidson, Nydia Davis, Neta Davis, Robert DeGraff, August Dieter, Frank Evans, Viola Ferguson, Clifford Fry, George Fowler, Grace Gregory, Everett Glover, Charles Hebbard, Bertha Herring, Watson Hoover, Bonner James, Howard Jamison, Fern Kash, Hazel Williams, Jay Klein, Bertha Kitto, Rose Kopelman, Lucile Linton, DeMerce Marlatt, Lela Manning, Gertrude Molloy, Brader McKee, Julius Miller, John Murray, Frank Murphy, Mabel Nix, Maud Nutz, Helen Pickson, Hazel Portor, Arthur Shimmons, Jaunita Thornton, Marie Thurman, Mabel Woodworth, Bonnibel White.

1910—Elizabeth Arnold, Darwin Amos, Edith Amos, Alice Bass, Mildred Bowers, Clarence Barron, Fae Boyd, Joseph Cole, Earl Cooley, Esther Cohen, George Cox, Sophia Campbell, Mona Campbell, Mary

Coyle, Lizette Clear, Theresa Dorsey, William Glade, Wynne Garrison, Elmer Gmeiner, May Harrington, Lyla Hanks, Urias Johnston, Morton Krugg, Florence Kettinger, Archie Kendall, Jean Lawrence, Lester Leach, Arnold Leonard, Rhea Lopp, Lola Maret, Edna McLendon, Lillian Meredith, Gerry Manning, Roscoe Mills, Brian Phillips, George Phillips, Helen Porter, Helen Patton, Beulah Powell, Josephine Regan, Gladys Rice, Howard Sandford, Emma Suppe, Frank Stephens, Marian Stewart, Harry Sickosky, Leon Wing, Myrtle Waterman, Eunice Chapman and Glenn Thurston.

Class Roll 1911—Elsie Emery Arnil, Gladys E. Ayland, Mabel Elsepeth Balsley, Richard Bell Buchanan, Lilas Brooks, Carolyn L. Bauer, Russell Belden, Aura Renfrow Bradley, J. Earl Burns, Howard Price Buxton, Blanche B. Baker, Mary E. Bingham, Auriel Charlotte Chickering, Bessie Jane Congdon, Nellie Luella Campbell, Maude Coombs, Nathaniel W. Davisson, Charles Gunn Dunwoody, Grace Aileen Dawson, Glenn Guy Davis, Elizabeth Eberly, Harold Finke, Bessie L. Foster, Mike Feerick, Zerma Fisher, Maude Elizabeth Francis, Morrison Bass Fowler, Marie Guengerich, Bertha Gardner, Minnie Rebecca Garrison, Ruth Arabella Hays, Mary Lucile Henson, Pansy Wenbourne Heald, Sue Heidrick, Amy C. Hoover, Neva Lillian Johnson, Inez Johnston, Jeanetta James, Spencer Perrine Jenkins, Oliva Margaret Jobson, Beulah Ann Johnson, Cecile Kaufman, Fern Blanche Kithcart, Sadie Klein, Charles Hendrick Kost, Ewart Hudson Lothian, Elsie Grace Leeds, Ella May Longacre, Dorothy Anderson Lawrence, Justine Worth Miles, Oscar E. Morgenthaler, Joseph Lee Marcum, Otto R. Mit, Nellie Blanche Martin, Mary Alice McCune, Maude Blanche Nickell, Edward Dorsey Porter, Hazel Perine, Norton E. Ritter, Elmer Eugene Ramaley, Elgin A. Ray, Helen Rogers, William Grier Sandford, Clare S. Sandford, John Neal Sergeant, Ethel Stevens, Susan Elizabeth Stewart, Claude E. Stephens, George O. Slutter, Muriel Juanita Simpson, Catherine Helen Scott, Donnie Cora Simmons, Ray Hammond Smith, Homer Grant Welch, Helen Williams, George Franklin Whitney, Henry Arthur Westcott, Margareth Welton, Nellie Marie Winterholer, Katherine Woodbury and Cleo Alice Woodworth.

#### ALUMNI BANQUETS

Each year save one during the eleven years of this century, the High School alumni have held an annual reunion, at which old-time friendships have been renewed and the graduating class for the year formally welcomed into the fold.

Each of these ten banquets has been highly successful and each ripe with rich experiences and pleasant memories. To give an idea of the character of these entertainments we give here the *Joplin Daily Globe's* account of the 1903 reunion, which we select for the reason that it brought together the largest number of alumni during the decade.

While the patter of myriad raindrops of a spring shower assailed the zinc roof of the building the Joplin High school alumni banquet



to the class of 1903 last night went merrily on and it was not until the final note of the closing speech was sounded and the several hundred alumnae and friends sought egress from the structure that the fury of the elements manifested itself in all its might.

Aside from the weather it was an evening of pure delight to the several remaining residents that have gone out from that institution as their alma mater, as well as to the graduating class and their educational guardians, the board of education and the faculty and the other friends assembled together.

A more representative or a more valuable collection of brains has perhaps never before gathered together under a single roof in Joplin.

At the head of the long banquet tables, which extended the length of the spacious assembly hall, said to be one of the finest in the state, sat the alumni president, L. L. Lichliter, the man who stands next to the highest post of honor in the province of the school board, as principal of the High school, and a member of the first graduating class, that of '88. The faculty, the members of the board of education and their wives, together with Paul Brown and wife and Rev. W. F. Turner and wife held the front tables, while down the center of the room ran the band of white damask which was to grace the feast for the members of the class of 1903. The other members of the alumni and their friends occupied the adjoining tables.

With the guests thus arranged the Rev. W. F. Turner, pastor of the First Christian church, spoke a few forceful words of grace and invocation. Then for the space of the next fifty minutes the appeasing of the inner appetite was the only number on the program and it had been amply provided for by the ladies of the Dorcas Circle of the Christain church who are to be congratulated for their success in arranging and serving such an elegant menu as was provided. The menu was as follows:

Cream of Celery Soup		
Queen Olives		Sweet Pickles
	Tomatoes—Mayonnaise Dressing	
Cold Turkey	Ham	Tongue
	Sandwich Rolls	
	Potato Chips	
	Alumni Fruit Punch	
	Chicken Salad	
Salted Almonds		Nut Sandwiches
Brick Ice Cream		Strawberries
Angel Food		Devil's Food
	Fruit	
Cheese		Wafers
	Cafe Noir	

When the last remaining vestige of the feast had been removed—the last crumb brushed from the table, as it were, President Lichliter as toastmaster for the evening formally opened the toasting ceremonies



with an address welcoming the graduates of 1903 class upon their initiation into the Alumni association. Mr. Lichliter explained to the class that they had not seen the last of him as some might have thought, and no doubt many wished, but that like Banquo's ghost he would not down and was now before them in a different light, not as principal of the Joplin High school, but as the honored president of the Joplin High school alumni. He spoke in regret of the fact that of the many who start in school at the beginning, so few remain to the close. He referred to the High school as the people's college and declared the class to represent, as regards the school life, the survival of the fittest. In closing he complimented the diversity of talent and the personality of the class and bade them cordial welcome into the Alumni association.

Walter Tousley, class president, responded to the address of welcome in that same manner and ease and completeness that has characterized that young man's oratorical course in the High school from its incipency four Septembers ago. He pointed with pride to the proverbial bigness under the hat that all the members of the class certainly felt and gave forth the class promise of living up to their motto: "All are Architects of Fate," that they would do their share of the building of the great and composite structure called life.

Mrs. H. S. Miller (Miss Cora Lichliter) one of the early graduates, and who is now recognized as a vocal singer of exceptional talent—talent that was first fostered in singing those dearly sacred school songs that never die in memory—sang a soprano solo, "Shoogy-Shoo" (Ambrose), Mrs. J. M. Gwinn accompanying, and responded to an encore.

Col. Joel T. Livingston, now a member of the board of education, responded to the toast, "Old Time School Boy Days."

A male quartet composed of Messrs. E. V. Jackson, C. C. Cummings, L. L. Lichliter and F. B. Rogers, sang DeKoven's "The Owl and the Pussy Cat" and were very heartily encored.

Prof. J. M. Gwinn, who for the term just closed has been superintendent, and who held the position of principal for two years prior to that time, gave the toast "The Joplin High School." The salient facts of Prof. Gwinn's talk to the alumnae were first that of the 243 graduated students, 71 had become teachers and 43 were now serving in that capacity in the Joplin schools; second, that Joplin High school boys make the best business men and Joplin High school girls the best wives in the community.

Prof. Gwinn struck a new chord when he prophesied for some not far distant future date a magnificent new stone high school building at Wall and Eighth streets, almost across from the new Carnegie library, where the Central school now stands. Prof. Gwinn foresaw in the near future if not at present a crowding for room in the present High school building, commodious though it is, so phenomenal has been the growth of the Joplin schools.

Miss Imo Price sang very beautifully G. Thomas' arrangement of

"A Summer Night," and was called upon for an encore solo, responding with "A Lonesome Dollie."

"The High School Boy in Public Life" was the toast assigned to Hon. Richard N. Graham, graduate of the Joplin High school and member of the recent Missouri legislative assembly. Mr. Graham called attention to the dire need of more high school boys in public life and advanced the opinion that if there were more of this class of young men in public life there would be fewer boodle scandals and lobby crookedness in connection with state administration. Mr. Graham spoke feelingly and eloquently to the incoming class and closed his remarks with a brilliant effort, entirely extemporaneous, alluding in most auroral terms to the opportunities before a high school boy in public life and of the edge that would be taken off the brighter side of the rainbow after a few months' actual contact with the rough surfaces of life in the world of public life.

The male quartet rendered Giebel's southern plantation lullaby, "Sleep Kentucky Babe," with much pleasing effect.

President C. S. Poole, of the board of education, closed the scheduled toasts with "A Few Remarks" for the good of those who spoke before him and for the good of the school.

Following Mr. Poole Rev. Paul Brown made a stirring speech in compliment to the Joplin High school and those who have watched over and in great measure shaped its destiny, the teachers, and bespoke for the future Joplin a keener awakening of the public spirit to a constant demand for improved facilities and accommodations in every phase of school life.

President Lichliter closed the evening by extending the thanks of the association to those present and repeated a welcome to the class of 1903, in whose honor the banquet was given.

The rain was coming down in torrents as the assemblage was dismissed and the street carriages reaped a harvest in four-bit pieces. It was past midnight before all the evening's participants were in their homes.

#### SCHOOL OFFICIALS

The following is a list of the superintendents of High school, principals and members of the Board of Education who have served the people of Joplin during the present century:

1900-2: Superintendent, J. D. Elliff; principal of high school, J. M. Gwinn.

1903: Superintendent, J. M. Gwinn; principal of high school, L. L. Lichliter.

1904: Superintendent, W. P. Roberts; principal of high school, L. L. Lichliter.

1905: Superintendent, W. P. Roberts; principal of high school, S. A. Baker.

1906: Superintendent, L. J. Hall; principal of high school, S. A. Baker.

1907: Superintendent, Edmund J. Vert; principal of high school, S. A. Baker.

1908-9: Superintendent, Geo. V. Buchanan; principal of high school, S. A. Baker.

1910-11: Superintendent, Geo. V. Buchanan; principal of high school, F. H. Barber.

Members of Board of Education: C. S. Poole, Al Reynolds, T. A. Cunningham, C. A. Lyon, C. M. De Graff, Joel T. Livingston, L. W. Kost, R. A. Wilson, Dr. A. Burson Clark, A. J. Shockley, S. C. Fones, Dr. M. T. Balsley, W. H. Warren, J. W. Boyd and A. Houghton.

#### STATE UNIVERSITY SUMMER NORMAL

In 1903, largely through the instrumentality of J. D. Elliff, the superintendent of schools, who had just returned from Columbia where he had taken a post-graduate course in the Missouri State University, and the Board of Regents and faculty of that great school, there was established in Joplin a Summer Normal which was conducted partly by members of the faculty from the University and from supply teachers in and around Joplin. The grades made at this Summer Normal were entered on the records at the State University, and the students were given credit for the work done at Joplin, the same as if they were in Columbia. The school lasted for seven weeks, six days in the week. The following was the faculty: R. H. Jesse, president of State University; J. D. Elliff, superintendent of Joplin school; W. J. Hawkins, superintendent of Nevada schools; J. M. Gwinn, principal of Joplin High School; Luther Hardaway, superintendent of Jasper county, and R. R. Ramsay, W. L. Howard and William Westmoreland, of the faculty of the University. This school was a great benefit, especially to the teachers of southwestern Missouri, and was largely attended by students from all over that vicinity.

#### THE JOPLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

As mentioned before, a movement was started in the 'nineties to found a public library, and something like \$1,000 was collected from various sources for the purpose of starting a public reading room, but it became apparent that to be a success the fund for maintenance must be of a permanent character and during the winter of 1900-1 a campaign of education was carried on by the various literary clubs of the city looking to the establishment by the city of a public library. The city, at the general election of 1901, by a very large majority voted an annual tax of ten cents on the one hundred dollars valuation for the maintenance of a free public library and reading room.

The law creating the library provided for the appointment of a non-partisan board of directors to manage the affairs of the library, and the Mayor named as the first board the following persons, all of whom are great lovers of good reading and who had taken a lively interest



in securing the passage of the law and its approval at the polls by the people: J. D. Elliff, president; Rev. Paul Brown, O. H. Picher, Henry Kost, E. L. Anderson, William N. Carter, H. H. Gregg, and Mrs. Ada Goss Briggs, Mrs. Emma Lichliter and Mrs. Hattie Ruddy Rice. The board organized by selecting superintendent J. D. Elliff, of the public schools, as president and Mrs. Rice as secretary.

About this time Andrew Carnegie announced his intention of donating \$10,000,000 toward the founding of free public libraries and the Joplin library board made application to the philanthropist for a donation for the erection of the Joplin library building and in July received the following letter relative to the same:

SKIBO CASTLE, ARDGAR, N. B., July 16, 1901.

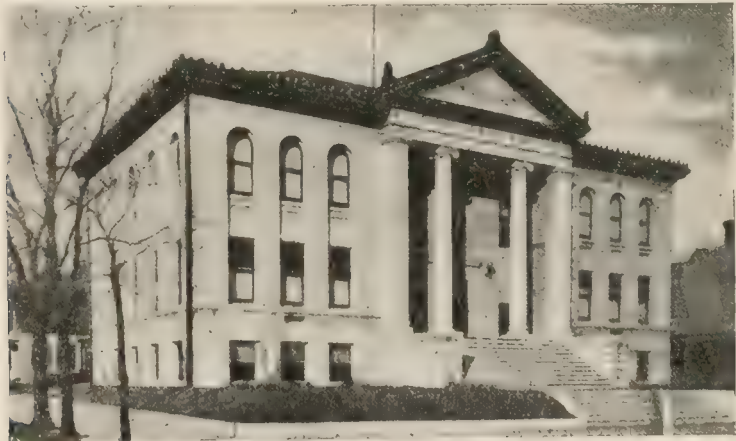
*M. J. D. Elliff, Pres't Library Board, Joplin, Mo.*

DEAR SIR:—Responding to your letter of May 6th—if the city of Joplin will furnish a suitable site and pledge itself to maintain the library at a cost of not less than \$4,000 a year, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to provide \$40,000 for a suitable building.

Very Respectfully,

JAMES BERTRAM, *Private Sec'y.*

As the city, at the general election, had voted the library tax and the amount to be derived from the same would exceed the \$4,000, noth-



CARNEGIE LIBRARY, JOPLIN

ing remained excepting to secure a site, and at once a number of well appointed building lots were offered by individuals and committees representing property owners in various parts of the city. After much consultation and careful deliberation the board, after having taken many ballots, selected the northwest corner of Ninth and Wall, and there the library, which is the pride of all Joplin, was built. The corner stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies in October, 1902. The Jasper county white limestone was used in the superstructure and the roof was very appropriately covered with zinc shingles, a gift from the Illinois Zinc Company.



While the library building was in course of erection the library was placed temporarily in the High school. Mrs. Baker (Beekie Sharp) being the first librarian.

In 1905 Miss Mary B. Swanwick, the present librarian, was placed in charge of the reading rooms and she, together with Miss Blanch Trigg, Mrs. A. D. Scott (nee Mary Barr) and Mrs. Hattie Ruddy Rice, assistant librarians, have most thoroughly classified and catalogued the books and periodicals.

In order that the reader may have an idea of the workings of the library we append herewith a few extracts from the annual report of the president and librarian for 1911:

No. books purchased 1910	1,902
No. books lost or worn out	552
No. books in library Jan. 1, 1911	15,737
No. books, magazines and periodicals	18,380
No. books circulated during the year	64,542
No. of people using library during year	10,814
Active holders of library cards	6,814

Twenty-one thousand five hundred and fourteen books were furnished to the public schools and circulated among the public school children under the direction of the superintendent of schools. Each of these 4,634 books was read on an average by five pupils; or in other words, each pupil in the schools (grammar grades) read five books in addition to the regular studies during the year.

The following constitute the present officials of the Library: President, Clark Craycroft; vice president, Hugh McIndoe; Thomas Dolan, C. W. Wescott, August Junge, W. A. Nickell, Dr. M. C. Shelton, Miss W. B. Myers and Mrs. Emma Lichliter.

#### THE CHURCHES OF JOPLIN

Religious work kept pace with the business activity during the last decade and was manifested by the organization of nine new churches and the reorganization of the old Congregational church, which had fallen into torpor during the latter 'nineties. Six of the older congregations built new and more commodious church edifices and three of them enlarged their old buildings to accommodate the new and enlarged demands. At each of these churches the building of the new church was a memorable event and was attended with impressive ceremonies.

The following are among the church improvements.

First Presbyterian church building erected, costing \$30,000.

Brethren Presbyterian church enlarged and remodeled at a cost of \$3,000.

North Heights Presbyterian chapel built. On this building the pastor labored, with other volunteer help, to complete the edifice. The

congregation, now a power, was at first few in numbers and the building was almost wholly erected by volunteer help.

Second Baptist and Calvary Baptist churches erected, each at a cost of \$10,000.

The First Methodist and Byers Avenue churches were built, at a cost respectively of \$35,000 and \$20,000, and the First Christian church for \$25,000. The Second Christian church was also enlarged.

The new East Joplin Congregational church cost \$5,000; St. Peters Catholic, \$40,000, and St. Philips Episcopal, \$20,000. The building of this church also was an example of perseverance worthy of emulation. In 1903 the foundation of the church was built. This was added to, little by little, until 1911, when the beautiful edifice was completed and dedicated.

The Central Christian church has completed the basement of a \$25,000 building which is in course of construction.

The First and Second Churches of Christ Scientist, erected new temples in Carthage.

#### THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The First Congregational church built two churches, or rather erected one new edifice and then were forced to rebuild it; and, on account of these peculiar circumstances, we speak more at length of the matter.

In 1900 the reorganized Congregational church called to the pastorate the Rev. Paul Brown of Kansas City. Mr. Brown was an exceptionally strong pastor; being not only highly cultured and a widely read man, but an orator of great ability. He at once became very popular and built up a large congregation of literary people, and money was quickly raised for a new church home which was built at the southwest corner of Second and Pearl streets. The building cost \$10,500, and when it was dedicated was entirely paid for. After a few months of occupancy, however, it was discovered that the walls were sinking and an investigation disclosed the fact that a drift in an old shaft, which had been worked away back in the early 'seventies, abandoned and filled up, had begun to cave.

Mr. Brown was a man of great action and, like Napoleon, was quick to see the time for action. A church meeting was called and it was determined to purchase a new lot, tear down the beautiful little church and rebuild. The lot at the northeast corner of Fifth and Pearl was purchased and the church rebuilt in 1902. The drift under the old building lot was filled and the lot sold.

The Congregational church has been a strong factor in the city during the past ten years. Rev. C. L. Parker is the present pastor.

## THREE COLORED CHURCHES BUILT

In 1903 Joplin was visited by a small cyclone, which did great damage to certain parts of the city, destroying two of the churches occupied by the colored people.

Thomas Connor, one of the city's millionaires, came to the front and donated \$5,000 to each of the three colored church organizations for the purpose of reerecting the buildings destroyed. This splendid gift was a great boon to the colored people and was much appreciated by them.

## BILLY SUNDAY

In the fall of 1909 Rev. William A. Sunday was induced by the church people to come to Joplin and hold a series of meetings. To accommodate the vast throngs who nightly came to hear the evangelist a tabernacle was constructed on vacant lots south of the Christman Annex on Virginia avenue. The Tabernacle, as it was called, was 150 by 120 feet and seated 5,000 people.

The meetings continued for six weeks and 3,000 conversions were made. As a testimonial of their appreciation of Mr. Sunday's labors, the church people of Joplin raised at the final collection \$5,500 which was given to the evangelist.

As one of the results of these meetings Jasper county voted on local option in February, 1910, and excepting Joplin, went dry.

## THE BROTHERHOOD MOVEMENT

In February, 1910, largely through the instrumentality of the Rev. W. M. Cleaveland, of the First Presbyterian church, a men's society was organized and was called the Brotherhood of the First Presbyterian Church of Joplin. The Brotherhood movement, which originated in the east, is an organization of the men of the church, and its purpose is threefold—first, to aid in spreading the Gospel; secondly, to bring the men of the church closer together in a social way and, thirdly, to strengthen the bonds of friendship.

F. E. Butcher was the first president of the Brotherhood and J. M. Evans has occupied the chair during the past year. The Brotherhood has held a monthly business and social session in the parlors of the church since its organization. The plan of these monthly meetings is as follows: On the night of the meeting, the members of the Brotherhood come directly from their work, or places of business, to the church parlors, and at 6:30 sit down to supper in the spacious dining room of the church and here partake of their evening meal which is served by one of the ladies' societies of the church. After the meal is concluded and as they sit around the table, a literary program is carried out, the exercise differing at each meeting; sometimes it is a lecture, sometimes a discussion of some of the great topics that are before the people, and sometimes a number of short recitations, readings and songs.

The Brotherhood of the First Presbyterian Church has entertained

as its guests quite a number of distinguished men, and is a great factor in the life of the church. The Brotherhood movement spread from the First Presbyterian church to quite a number of the other church organizations, similar societies having been formed in the North Heights Presbyterian, First Christian and the South Joplin Christian churches.

#### THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The ten years of the decade ushered in with 1900 represent ten busy, active and productive years for the Young Men's Christian Association. The year 1900 saw plans consummated for a new and commodious building; 1901 saw the magnificent structure completed, and the remaining years have seen its scope of usefulness enlarged. In order that the reader may have an idea of the influence it exerted we give here space for the mention of a few of its important doings.

When J. E. Coulter took charge of the Young Men's Christian Association he introduced the custom of asking some one of the several churches to have charge of the New Year's day reception and so the Methodists, Congregationalists, Christians, Presbyterians, the Baptists and others took turns in entertaining the young men of the city on that anniversary, each vying with the other in conducting the most brilliant and pleasant New Year's day entertainments.

On January 1, 1900, it was the turn of the First Presbyterian church to entertain and Mrs. J. E. Coulter, the genial wife of the secretary and a past worthy matron in the art of entertainment, was appointed to preside over the annual New Year's day reception. Mrs. Coulter called to her assistance twenty-four of the most charming young ladies of the church to assist her. The entertainment given and the good cheer that prevailed eclipsed all previous receptions. The rooms were most beautifully decorated and the general air of brilliancy was heightened with a liberal array of potted plants and cut flowers. All formality was waved aside and the committee of twenty-five saw that everybody got acquainted and had a good time.

During the evening an informal program was rendered and there was just enough of music and literary entertainment to add spice to the social conversation; and, to cap it all off, there was a superb abundance of cakes and pies "just like mother used to make," and other edibles, which were served by the good women and rounded out the evening's pleasure.

Ground for the Y. M. C. A. building was broken June 1, 1900, and the elegant new home was completed in February, 1901. The building has been liberally patronized and well supported by the young men of the city.

#### JOPLIN CHURCHES IN BRIEF

The following church statistics, published January 1, 1910, will give an idea of the church population of Joplin:



Churches	Pastors	No. Members
First Presbyterian	Rev. W. M. Cleaveland	488
Bethany Presbyterian	Rev. G. W. Williamson	185
North Heights Presbyterian		152
First Baptist	Rev. H. A. Smoot	800
Second Baptist	Rev. J. W. T. Givens	325
Empire Street Baptist		113
Calvary Baptist	Rev. S. F. Taylor	73
First Methodist	Rev. Frank Neff	500
Byers Avenue Methodist	Rev. E. W. Elayer	498
Central Avenue Methodist	Rev. M. V. Heidelbaugh	151
Epworth Methodist	Rev. E. H. Sapp	75
First M. E., South	Rev. C. H. Briggs	400
Blendville M. E., South	Rev. T. H. Clayton	70
First Christian	Rev. G. L. Chapman	900
Second Christian	Rev. J. R. Blunt	750
Central Christian	Rev. A. K. Williams	153
Villa Heights Christian	Rev. J. W. Famuliner	206
First Congregational	Rev. C. L. Parker	192
East Joplin Congregational	Rev. S. A. Willard	120
St. Peter's Catholic	Father Meany	700
St. Philip's Episcopal	Rev. C. A. Weed	175
Lutheran	Rev Louis Seidel	242
First Christian Science	Ernest C. Price, Reader	275
Second Christian Science	Mrs. Will Porter, Reader	115
Salvation Army	Ensign Edgar Harris	48
Unity Baptist (colored)	Rev. C. C. Calhoun	50
M. E. (colored)	Rev. C. F. Webster	64
A. M. E. (colored)	Rev. C. W. Newton	72
Total membership		7,892

To this number add 7,200 Sunday School children and you have a correct idea of the church-going people of Joplin.

#### THE CHILDREN'S HOME

The Children's Home of Joplin originated with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union which organization, realizing the necessity of a place where the friendless and homeless children could be cared for, started in June, 1900, the W. C. T. U. Home. The home was first housed in a four room cottage at 708 Pearl street. In 1901 Gilbert Barbee donated the use of a twelve-room building, at the corner of Twelfth and Virginia avenue, and suggested that the home be incorporated and plans laid for making it a permanent institution. Articles for incorporation were drawn up and, for the purpose of widening its scope of usefulness, the name was changed to the Joplin Children's Home. Among the W. C. T. U. women who were prom-

inent in founding the Children's Home were Mrs. S. A. Phelps, Mrs. L. Gould, and Mrs. Dr. Willim. The first matron of the home was Mrs. C. E. Barr.

In 1904 John H. Taylor donated a five-acre tract of land in East Joplin for a building site, and the good women of the city raised \$10,000 to build and equip a home. In 1905 Mrs. Barr moved to Kansas City and was succeeded as matron by Mrs. Dona C. Daniels, who has proven a most excellent officer. During the twelve years that this home has been in operation the officers have found permanent homes for two hundred and four children. Last year one hundred and seven homeless or friendless children were cared for, sixty-five of whom have been provided with permanent homes.

The Home has been supported almost entirely by private subscriptions, which have been made by the charitably inclined people. One of the important plans for making money is the annual event known as "Tag Day," which was first introduced in 1907 and has since been observed with great success. The Tag Day plan is so fresh in the minds of the people that it is hardly necessary to describe it here, except to say that too much praise cannot be given to the splendid women of Joplin for the manner in which they have rallied to the support of the Home and to their untiring efforts for its welfare. The following are the present officers of the Home: President, Mrs. C. M. Spring; vice president, C. C. Spencer; secretary, Mrs. J. W. Willim; treasurer, Mrs. J. W. B. Amsden.

The following interesting story which describes the manner in which the Home was first started was told the author by Mrs. S. A. Phelps, one of its founders. In the spring of 1900 a girl came to Joplin seeking employment and in wandering about the city from place to place, in search of work, she came to the home of Mrs. C. E. Barr. It was then almost night time and the girl, who was tired and hungry, asked to remain with Mrs. Barr until she could find something to do and the good woman, realizing the temptations that would come to a homeless girl, took her in and cared for her until she found work in a private home. The girl told the incident to one or two other young women out of employment and they too came to Mrs. Barr for assistance. At a meeting of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Barr related the incident and asked the Union to help her provide for these young women, and thus guide them over the pitfalls and dangers that would beset them. The Union with one voice voted "aye," and from this little beginning a Children's Home movement took root and grew to the splendid institution which is today Joplin's generously supported charity.

#### YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The Young Women's Christian Association was organized in 1905, largely through the efforts of Mrs. J. W. Bell, who became its first president. The objects of the "Y. W.," as it has been popularly called,

were threefold—first, to bring the Christian young women of the city in closer touch with one another; second, to strengthen the bond of friendship, and third, to provide a Christian home for the young women who are temporarily in the city and away from the home life and influence. The home has done a splendid work for the young women of the city. From 1906 to 1911 it maintained a home in the John Taylor's old property, corner of Seventh and Joplin.

#### ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL

In 1900 the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy Convent launched a project to build a hospital—an institution much needed in a mining community. The citizens generally endorsed the plan and assisted the good women in collecting the funds necessary to build the same. Many wealthy men also contributed to the building fund and quite a number of lodges gave entertainments for the benefit of the hospital.

T. C. Malloy, councilman from the third ward, has perhaps more than any other one man pushed the matter of public contributions and has, as chairman of the club hospital committee, given much of his time to this worthy charity.

#### BALL GAME FOR HOSPITAL FUND

One of the first and most enjoyable of a hundred or more entertainments given for the hospital was a ball game played by a picked team of ball enthusiasts from the Elks Lodge and the Joplin Club and we print here the *News-Herald* account of the great game, which occurred July 31, 1901: "The great game of ball is over at last. And St. John's hospital won a large sum of money. With the weather as fine as one could wish for, the grand stand packed with the most enthusiastic audience that ever witnessed a game, besides, fifty vehicles filled with the elite of Joplin's smart set, the best amateur event in the history of Joplin ball playing began.

"Everybody was there.

"The orange and black of the Joplin club were also conspicuously displayed all through the audience and was waved frantically whenever the favorites performed noteworthy.

"The purple and white of the Elks was in evidence in parasols, streamers, neckties, etc., by those who 'rooted' the 'best on earth.'

"As for the quality of ball the two teams put up, the universal comment expressed great surprise at the professional manner in which the game was carried out, many expecting to see merely a laughable burlesque of a ball game; but instead it was faster and more spirited than many of the so called professional games. To see business men, whose work is in office away from the out door air and not enlivened by out door exercise, play such a game as yesterday's shows that there is ability in the physical line accompanying the more active mental exertion.

"When the two teams got themselves together yesterday afternoon, arrayed in striking uniforms of black for the Elks and white for Joplin club, they had their pictures taken separately—that is, the two teams. The patrol wagon in charge of Officer Tom Brower was in waiting for the Elks and they were immediately taken in. The Joplin Club was more stylish but less amusing, as they rode in two open cabs. The band which was to have headed the procession did not materialize. However, that was no obstacle, and soon the patrol wagon had hurried to the park where it unloaded its freight in front of the grand stand, while a cheer went up from the purple and white. Rubber tired cabs are not so slow, however, and in a minute another cheer went up for the Joplin Club, as its members filed out of the carriages.

"At 3:45 o'clock, Umpire Marcum sent the Club to the field and the Elks began batting all over the Club's pitcher scoring five runs in the first inning. The Club was not so lucky in the first inning scoring only one run. However, a bad beginning does not mean a bad ending, and after the first inning things began to look serious for the Elks until the fourth, when Baker was put in the box for the Elks and Smith was sent to the field. This changed matters somewhat and Roy Caulkins' megaphone again came into evidence, the purple and white taking on a more lustrous sheen meanwhile, for Baker was holding the Club down. However, the latter raised themselves gradually and at the close of the seventh inning, the score was 18 to 13 in favor of the Club. But there were two more innings and in the eighth the Elks took advantage of every opportunity and succeeded in bringing up the score to 18 and 18. This made the matter more serious than ever, as the Elks had had their last bat and it was up to the Club in the last half of the last inning to decide the game. The winning run was scored, pandemonium reigned, the crowd departed and all was over."

#### JOPLIN CLUB

	A.	B.	R.	H.	P.	O.	A.	E.
Quinby c. f. ....	3	3	2	1	0	0		
Walden s. s. r. f. ....	6	3	2	1	1	1		
Jones r. f. 2 l. b. ....	5	3	2	1	1	1		
Rummel l. f. ....	6	2	3	1	0	0		
Maher p. ....	6	2	2	1	3	1		
Chestnut 1 b. s. s. ....	6	3	4	4	1	1		
Shepherd 3 b. ....	4	0	1	3	0	2		
Campbell 2 b. 2 l. b. ....	5	1	2	1	1	0		
King c. ....	5	2	2	14	3	2		
Totals .....	46	19	20	27	10	7		



## ELKS

	A.	B.	R.	H.	P.	O.	A.	E.
Smith p. ....	5	2	3	0	1	0		
Howard s. s. ....	6	3	4	2	4	1		
Baker 3 b. ....	4	1	1	1	0	1		
Bayless c. ....	5	4	4	8	3	0		
Simons r. f. 2 b. l. b. ....	6	2	2	2	1	0		
Craig l. b. 2 b. ....	6	1	1	8	1	1		
Young 2 b. ....	3	1	2	2	0	1		
Shepherd c. f. ....	5	3	2	0	1	0		
Kirkpatrick l. f. j. 3 b. ....	4	0	0	2	0	0		
o Lane r. f. ....	2	1	0	0	0	0		
x Kingsbury r. f. ....	1	0	0	0	0	0		
Totals .....	47	18	19	25	11	4		

Summary: Earned runs—Joplin Club 4, Elks 6; two base hits—Quinby, Walden, Jones, Rummel, Bayless, 2 Craig, Shepherd; three base hits—Quinby, Chestnut, Shepherd; home run—Layne; struck out—by Smith, 6; by Maher, 11; bases on balls, h. b. p.—Smith, 1; Maher, 1; o—substitute for Baker; x—substitute for Layne. Time: two hours. Umpire: Marcum.

This was the beginning of a series of entertainments—balls, lawn socials, festivals, etc.—all of which added to the hospital fund. The hospital was built in 1902 and formally opened to the public. It has proven such a popular institution and has been so generally used that it became necessary, in 1910, to enlarge the building.

## CHAPTER XLIV

### THE NEGRO LYNCHING AND THE RIOT

MURDER OF POLICEMAN LESLIE—CAPTURE OF THE MURDERER—THE JAIL  
BATTERED IN—AWFUL LYNCHING OF GILYARD—CLEARING OUT THE  
NEGRO QUARTERS—LAW AND ORDER IN CONTROL—FINAL RESULT.

From April 14 to 16, 1903, Joplin witnessed a scene of wildest excitement and great disorder, which was brought on by the murder of Policeman Theo Leslie while attempting to arrest Thomas Gilyard and a band of lawless negro tramps. Officer Leslie was the third member of the Joplin police force to be killed while in the discharge of his duty during the administration that was just drawing to a close.

A short time before the incident a negro ravisher at Pierce City had been lynched—and the irate citizens of both Pierce City and Monnett had driven the colored people of those two places out of the city and the recollection of this unfortunate incident was still fresh in the minds of the people of Joplin and no doubt influenced some of the people and helped bring about the incidents that followed.

On the night of April 13 the hardware store of Bullock & Pierce had been burglarized and a number of revolvers and a quantity of ammunition stolen. This was one of a number of small depredations that had been committed during the spring and indicated the operation of a gang of petty thieves whom the police were determined to suppress.

#### MURDER OF POLICEMAN LESLIE

On the afternoon of the 14th in searching through the Kansas City Southern Railway yards Policeman Leslie discovered a gang of negro tramps occupying a box car in an out-of-the-way place in the north end of the yards in the Kansas City Bottoms. As he approached the car one of the inmates of the box-car house came out and Policeman Leslie, ordering him to halt, began to search him. At this a negro named Thomas Gilyard opened fire on Leslie from the rear and the officer, turning on this assailant, returned the fire. Several shots were exchanged, one of which killed the officer, and he fell dead, a victim of the bullet of the negro leader of the gang.

A number of citizens witnessed the shooting and ran to the assistance of the unfortunate policeman, and Clarence Shortless, like Clark and others took after the negro, who had been wounded in the

leg by a shot from the officer's gun. Examination of the box-car showed that it had been the shelter of the gang, as it contained bed clothing, a few cooking utensils and a quantity of plunder which had been taken on the numerous pilfering trips during the month previous.

The news of the officer's murder spread like wildfire and the greatest excitement existed. From all over the city people flocked to the police station and thence to the morgue of the Joplin Undertaking Company, where the body of the officer lay cold in death. City Marshal Marquiss, of Webb City, was telephoned for and came over with his bloodhounds. The dogs were placed on the scent, which they followed north on the railroad for some three miles, when the chase was given up. The men in charge of the dogs stated that they were exhausted and had no means of following the dogs except on foot. Armed posses of citizens from Joplin, Galena, Carl Junction, Asbury and all the other towns in the district scoured the country in search of the murderer.

Never, perhaps, in the history of Joplin, were such scenes witnessed as those which accompanied the capture and hanging of the negro Gilyard. All that day excitement ran high and groups of men stood on every corner talking about the murder of Policeman Leslie. In every hamlet and village in the surrounding country the news was flashed from Joplin to watch for the murderer. In every locality for a radius of twenty-five miles men were scouring hill and dale with set faces and stern purpose. The wildest rumors came thick and fast stating that the murderer had been caught in this place or that and with each new report still another band of armed citizens would start on double quick to investigate the story. It would seem that he whom the public sought could not possibly escape and as the day lengthened into the evening the tense nerves of the people never relaxed. "He will, he must be found" seemed the universal verdict.

#### CAPTURE OF THE MURDERER

Lee Fullerton, an employee of the Bauer Brothers' butcher shop and M. R. Bullock, living near Castle Rock, captured the murderer. Fullerton first discovered the man on the afternoon of April 15th at 3 o'clock. He had gone to the company's slaughter pen on Turkey Creek between Castle Rock and the Frisco block and was just entering the yards when he saw a negro limping up the hill. The man carried a large gun and Fullerton thought at once that the man before him was probably the one who killed officer Leslie.

"Where are you going?" he asked. The negro at first made no answer but finally after sitting down and leaning against the fence he replied, "Come here a minute, I want to tell you something."

"Tell me from where you are," said Fullerton.

"Well, boss, it's dis way. I got in a shootin' scrape in town last night and I got shot in de leg. I wants to stay here till I gets well."

At this stage of the proceeding Bullock appeared and the two men retreated into the slaughter house near by. When they returned Fullerton carried a large butcher knife. To the negro he said, "I guess it will be all right for you to stay here;" and Fullerton busied himself cutting tallow within a couple of feet of the negro.

Suddenly he leaped in front of the negro and placing the knife in front of the fellow's throat, he said "Make one movement and I'll cut your throat."

The negro was disarmed and then the two men took charge of their prisoner.

Just at 4:15 o'clock the same day a shout went up from somewhere nobody perhaps knew where. But that shout echoed far and wide. "They have the murderer" was the cry and from every street and alley, from every point and suburb, men and women and children came flocking to the jail.

On all sides, in front and even on top of the old structure, a sea of surging humanity fought and struggled to get nearer the cell in which the shivering cowed black man lay. Every moment swelled the crowd, until thousands surrounded the prison and cries of "kill him!" "Lynch the nigger!" and "bring a rope!" rose on every side.

"Break the jail down!" shouted frenzied men, and from somewhere came willing hands bringing a heavy timber. Only a moment did the crowd hesitate. Strong hands seized the battering ram, there was a crash and the side door of the old jail was in splinters. Into the corridor poured the raging, tossing mob, carrying down the cordon of police who vainly sought to stem the terrible tide.

Down to the cell where Gilyard lay in an agony of fear surged the mob. Someone raised a heavy sledge hammer aloft. Crash after crash came the hammer on the lock and louder yelled and stormed the wild crowd behind. As the blows fell the fastenings gave way, the door opened and into the cell like devouring wolves the avengers surged.

Thomas Gilyard, from the floor where he lay, looked at those who came after him with a face from which hope had fled. Big and powerful as an ox, he was tossed about like a feather in the sea of humanity of which he was now the center. Out into the open air and bright sunlight, Thomas Gilyard was dragged to his doom. Westward on Second street to Wall pushed the multitude and louder and still louder roared the awful concourse which demanded the prisoner's life. The crowd was by this time swelled to thousands. Like a terrible vortex of raging billows the mob swayed and struggled and fought to reach the object of its wrath. A handful of bold determined men fought manfully to save the negro in the interest of law and order. Back and forth with the strength of desperation, these men struggled to hold the avengers back. Ravening hands seized the negro only to have their fingers torn loose from his quivering flesh. Long and faithfully those who wished the law to take its course battled with the mob and each moment the frenzy of the mob grew stronger. Attorney



Perl Decker was hoisted to the shoulders of the crowd and made a powerful plea in behalf of the law. Time and again he was pulled to the earth and each time he clambered back above the howling multitude; but his efforts were in vain.

Dr. F. E. Rohan struggled with might and main to hold the crowd in check and Mayor-elect Cunningham was hurriedly driven to the scene in a buggy. Urging his horse as far as possible into the densely packed crowd he stood up and commanded the attention of the crowd. But no human voice could make itself heard above that awful roar.

Louder and fiercer grew the cries for the negro's death. It now became a struggle for mastery. Men fought like demons to reach the black man, who looked about him with staring, horror-stricken eyes. Slowly but surely the negro and his would-be rescuers were borne across the street toward a telephone pole. From somewhere a rope was whirled across the heads of the crowd. As its serpentine length flew through the air one end fell on the negro's shoulder.

Those who saw Thomas Gilyard's face at that moment will never forget the sight.

#### AWFUL LYNCHING OF GILYARD

Somebody in the crowd cut the rope. "Kill the next man who does that!" roared many voices.

Around the doomed man's neck was placed the fatal noose. "Oh God, don't!" was all he said.

Clinging to the pole in mid-air were two determined men. Silently they watched the scene below. Each man was holding forth his hand. Up came the loose end of the rope and the outstretched hands seized it.

The crowd grew frantic.

"Up with him," shrieked the crowd now beside itself.

Slowly the rope was torn from the hands of those who sought to prevent the lynching.

On Thomas Gilyard's face appeared a demonical grin.

The rope tightened.

Then up into the air the black half nude body was drawn.

Up, up, slowly, with dreadful deliberation, the body rose. An iron spike in the telephone pole gouged the side of the negro's head.

There was a convulsive movement of the negro's arm, as if he would seize the rope which closed about his throat. High above the spectators the body hung; the features sullen, the eyes closed, the heavy jaws set.

A life had paid the penalty for Theodore Leslie's murder.

Thomas Gilyard was dead.

After the body of Gilyard had been cut down and removed to the morgue, great crowds congregated about town and discussed the affair. There was considerable excitement and the streets were crowded with rapidly increasing throngs.

## CLEARING OUT THE NEGRO QUARTERS

About eight o'clock that evening an uproar was heard on North Main street and as the crowds rushed to the middle of the street to ascertain the cause a huge body of men were seen approaching. On they came until it looked as if thousands must be in the multitude. "Out with the niggers" was the battle cry. South on Main until Seventh street was reached marched the throng, their numbers increasing every moment.

As the mob went east on Seventh street, yelling and hooting, the negroes ran out of the alleys like rats in their fright and determination to get away.

The mob yelled:

"White folks get in line."

"White folks keep your lights burning."

"Negroes must move," etc.

Everywhere the crackling of glasses in negro houses could be heard and the rip, rip of boards as they were being torn from the shanties.

When the mob had concluded its work on Seventh street the march was begun toward the north end. When the army reached this locality, not a colored person was to be found. The evacuation was complete.

Then the work of destruction began. Windows were smashed in and doors torn from their hinges. Finally the torch was applied and three houses were soon in flames. The fire department responded and when they had laid two lines of hose it was discovered that both strings had been punctured in many places almost rendering the apparatus useless.

It was estimated that over one hundred negro families had moved out of the city. Next morning a *News-Herald* reporter visited the localities and found scores of colored families packing their belongings preparatory to taking the first train out of the city. Express wagons were driving hither and thither hauling away furniture, boxes and all manner of household goods.

All the next day there was a marked migratory movement on the part of the colored population of the city. It was said that the second-hand stores had done more purchasing of household articles that day than they had during all the rest of that month. The negroes were thoroughly frightened. They firmly believed that something desperate was to be done that night. Later in the day there were wild rumors on the street, to the effect that at night the mob would reassemble and finish the work of the night before. It was also reported that sympathizers from neighboring towns would come and help drive out the negroes who still remained in the city.

## LAW AND ORDER IN CONTROL

Mayor Trigg issued a call for a mass meeting at the courthouse for the purpose of organizing a law and order posse to prevent further

depredations and to preserve the peace. One thousand citizens responded to the call, among them T. A. Cunningham, mayor-elect, Jno. A. McManany, city marshal-elect, and many business and professional men.

On calling the meeting to order Mayor Trigg said that he greatly regretted not only the lynching of Gilyard, but the destruction of the property of the colored people, many of whom had been good citizens and long residents of Joplin. After the passing of resolutions pledging the support of the citizens in maintaining law and order, a citizens' committee of five hundred was organized. Post Commander Jones, of the G. A. R., tendered the services of O. P. Morton Post, No. 14; Capt. Robt. Robyn, for the Knight of Pythias, tendered the services of Joplin County, No. 40, U. R. K. P.; Canton Lincoln, of the I. O. O. F.; Washington Camp, Uniform Rank Red Men, and other semi-military societies enlisted; and, in addition to these, three companies of citizen volunteers, were quickly organized and were commanded by Jno. A. McManany, city marshal-elect, Lee Shepherd, former lieutenant of Company G and John Malang. The entire posse, numbering eight companies were placed in command of Col. Joel T. Livingston, of the governor's military staff, and after marching from the courthouse down Main street to the mayor's office (as an object lesson), the companies were dismissed and retired to the several places which had been selected as company headquarters to wait developments.

That night the streets were packed and, as a precautionary matter, the Mayor ordered the saloons closed. It should be stated here, however, that the vast throng which filled the streets was for the most part made up of good citizens who had come to town, not for the purpose of encouraging or participating in any lawless acts, but simply to see the excitement and, as one spectator happily put it, "to be Johnnie on the spot and see anything of an exciting nature that was pulled off." Mayor Trigg made a speech to the crowd at Fourth and Main streets, then packed so thickly that travel was impossible, and requested the people to go to their homes. Some few people complied with his request, but the great majority stayed to see if anything else would happen. Mayor Trigg then ordered the police force and posse to clear the streets and the volunteer force, five hundred strong, moved down Fourth street and into Main, marching in solid column sixteen abreast. There was at first some resistance, however, but in half an hour the streets were cleared, most of the people realizing that for them to remain on the streets would place them in the attitude of encouraging acts of lawlessness. By nine o'clock all excitement had subsided and the volunteers were dismissed to reassemble at the sound of the brewery whistle, which was agreed upon as a riot alarm.

After quiet was restored, the colored people began to return, and in a few weeks the event was treated as a closed incident. While most of the colored families returned, some of them never came back to the city and some others, feeling that the event had been a great humiliation to their race, moved away.

## FINAL RESULT

The rowdy element among the colored population who had previously lived in the Kansas City Bottom either gave Joplin a wide berth or, on returning, became "like little Willie the week before Christmas," just as good as could be. As an aftermath to the mob scenes, the colored people of Jasper county met at Carthage, April 28, organized a law and order league and pledged their cooperation with the officers to drive from the state all bad characters.



## CHAPTER XLV

### JOPLIN'S FRATERNITIES

THE RED MAN—THE EAGLES—THE ELKS—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—  
—RATHBONE SISTERS—EL PLOMO TEMPLE, No. 126, D. O. K. K.—  
THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONS—JOPLIN CHAPTER ROSE CROIX, No. 3—  
JOPLIN COUNCIL, No. 3, KNIGHTS OF KODOSH—THE CONSISTORY—  
GRAND CHAPTER, ROYAL ARCH MASONS—W. O. W. LOG ROLLING—  
GRAND LODGE, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS  
TEMPLAR—BALL IN A MINE—STATE ENCAMPMENT, UNITED CON-  
FEDERATE VETERANS—GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC MATTERS—  
COMPANY F, SECOND REGIMENT, M. N. G.

Joplin has some sixty-odd fraternal societies, in addition to the several trade unions which includes almost every branch of labor in the city. It would be quite impossible, in a work of this character, to give anything like a complete history of these several organizations—first, on account of space and, secondly, for the reason that, although members of several of these bodies, the author had not access to the records of the various fraternities and could not, therefore, do the subject justice without consulting the data filed away in the archives of the lodge rooms.

We will, however, endeavor to mention the new societies which became identified with the city's history during the past decade, and speak briefly of that portion of their actions which had a general interest to the community.

#### THE RED MEN

In 1900 a lodge of Red Men was organized in Joplin and its formation was quickly followed by issuing of charter to five other tribes of this great order which were established in East Joplin two in the main part of the city, at Blendville and Chitwood. The Red Men is a semi-patriotic and semi-fraternal society, being organized for the two-fold purpose of keeping alive the glorious achievements and historic incidents of the Revolutionary war. The Improved Order of Red Men takes its name from the incident of the Boston tea party, and the minute men who, on this memorable occasion, emptied the tea into the Atlantic ocean and perpetuated their deed in history by the organization of this society. It is said that every president of the United States from Washington down to Taft has been a member of the Red Men.

During the early part of the decade the Red Men's lodges of Joplin were very active, having a combined membership of over six hundred, and their open meetings and public demonstrations were largely attended. In 1903 the local tribes entertained the state organization and the parade which was participated in by five hundred Red Men in costume was an imposing spectacle. The Joplin Company of the Red Men's Uniform Rank was the first drill corps formed in the state of Missouri. It was known as Washington Camp, No. 1, and was attired in the uniform of the Revolutionary patriots. J. A. Brown was the captain of this splendidly drilled and equipped organization. Three times during the decade the Red Men of the city conducted a largely attended Fourth of July celebration.

#### THE EAGLES

The Eagles, a fraternal society whose motto is to "make life worth living and do it now," was established in Joplin in 1901 and became very popular, numbering in 1904, over a thousand members in the Joplin aerie. The Eagles have, since organization, maintained a commodious and well appointed club room.

#### THE ELKS

Joplin Lodge, B. P. O. E., has been a great factor in the social life of Joplin. In 1904 the lodge built, at the corner of Fourth and Pearl streets, a magnificent club house. As a nucleus to the building fund for this lodge home, a number of entertainments were given, among them three successful street fairs in 1900, 1901 and 1902; the dramatic entertainment "The Girl I Left Behind Me," which was seven times presented to crowded houses, and the never-to-be-forgotten Elks minstrels.

The Elks club house was opened with an indoor fair, the following mention of which appeared in the society notes of the *News-Herald*:

"The Joplin Elk's big fair opened Monday evening, February 27, 1905, at 7 o'clock at the Elks new club house, corner of Fourth and Pearl streets. It was the great social event of the season and continued till Tuesday night of the next week. It was not an entertainment for Elks alone, but for everybody who was a friend of the Elks, to the public generally. All were invited to the big show, or, to speak more correctly, to the series of big shows, for there were many attractions and many things to amuse, interest and entertain.

"The Elks fair was the opening event or housewarming of the elegant new club house built by the Joplin Elks. It was conducted by the Elks and the ladies of Joplin and was more elaborate than anything ever given in this part of the state. The massive building was transformed into many bowers of beauty and pretty pagodas with gorgeous decorations. These handsome booths were fitted with many articles of value and beauty.

“There were many attractions of many kinds at the fair, all for the small admission price of ten cents. There were dancing and many amusements every evening. Lemonade and punch were served by a score of pretty girls at the wells, and tea and coffee was served in the Japanese garden. This Japanese tea garden consisted of pretty pagodas decorated with flags and cherry blossoms.

“Bewitching girls in Oriental costumes served tea, coffee and other refreshments. The entertainment hall had dancing every thirty minutes; also pie-eating contests, molasses dips and other amusing features. The Turkish pagoda was one of the grandest exhibits in tapestries and rich rugs outside of the World’s Fair. In it was \$10,000 worth of handsome Turkish, Persian and Indian rugs, curtains, tapestries and draperies. Rare Smyrna, Antollas and Durris were on exhibition and for sale.

“The vaudeville shown in the basement was one of the greatest things in the show. Torleton and Torleton, comedy-musical artists, gave an almost continuous performance of high class musical entertainment. Mitchell, a special comedy artist engaged for the occasion was assisted by Miss Mitchell, a vocalist. Thirty minutes of vaudeville turns of unusual quality held the attention of a large audience.

“Certificates of deposit upon the Bank of Joplin are dispensed at the Elks’ bank in charge of Mrs. A. H. Waite, cashier, assisted by a corp of tellers in white dresses. A \$25 deposit was awarded to E. H. Moore who was the holder of the lucky number, 219 at the close of the first evening. Mrs. Waite was assisted by Mrs. J. A. Cragin, Mrs. E. G. Nix, Mrs. T. W. Osterloh, Mrs. Frank Church, Mrs. Millie Porter, Mrs. J. H. Spencer, Mrs. J. H. Taylor, Mrs. F. H. Spring, Mrs. Finke, Mrs. Dugan, Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Evans.

“The gypsy booth, with its beautiful red lights and artistically gowned women, is another of the popular places. Mrs. D. C. Hoover, with her corps of assistants, undertook the management of the booth, reading any hand for ten cents.

“The ‘Mike the Duck’ game of chance, in which the chancer always got some, was quite amusing. Five cents was put in the bird’s pipe and then he ducked his head and brought up a small gift in his beak. These were always satisfactory. This booth was in charge of Mrs. C. N. Stark and her assistants were Mrs. J. B. Serage, Mrs. C. Jones, Mrs. C. Foster, Mrs. D. Bolton, Mrs. Chas. Hart, Miss Buchanan and the Misses Deiter.

“Some of the other booths were the handkerchief booth, the colonial booth, the souvenir booth, the flower booth, the lemonade booth and the bon-bon booth.

“The auction booth was one where all kinds of valuables were knocked down to the lowest bidder. The ceaseless hum of the Elks “buggy” wheel enlivened one of the cozy nooks of the building and the number which the pointer indicated determined to whom went the valuable prizes. These prizes consisted of donations made by public spirited members of the Elks and their friends and were of considerable value.

Among the prizes were a 40-acre farm donated by John D. Cameron, in southwest Missouri; a city lot in Schifferdecker's addition to Joplin by Schifferdecker; a fine automobile by John Wise; a \$150 cut glass punch bowl and cups, many carloads of coal, sacks of ore, articles of furniture and household goods of every description. In addition to these were several \$25 cash prizes and one prize of \$50 in gold. Also the Elks were presented with two large elegant vases, a Japanese tea set and a Japanese chocolate set from Count Kogora Takahira, the Japanese minister. The secretary of the Japanese legation wrote the committee, in behalf of the minister, conveying his pleasure in being able to contribute to the Joplin Elks.

"Among the things to be raffled was an annual pass on the Southwest Missouri Electric Railway donated by President Rogers, a \$1,000 life insurance policy in the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company donated by Franklin M. Smith, and an old Dutch mission clock donated by the C. M. Spring Drug Company.

"The 40-acre farm was won by George Layne, the city lot was sold at auction and bought by Arthur Bendelari, Charles W. Bartlett won the cut glass punch bowl and set, and John Worth, Sidney Wilkins, John R. Holmes and Mrs. Albert Newman each won a carload of coal donated by different coal companies. The purse containing \$50 in gold, donated by a prominent Elk, was won by O. B. Chaney. The old mission clock was won by R. R. Campbell, commercial agent for the Katy railroad. Mrs. C. E. Baker was the winner of the silk dress pattern given by P. A. Christman to the Elks' fair management.

"The bon-bon booth, with its arches of green cedar lighted by myriads of red shaded electric lights to represent cherries, was very popular. A great feature of this booth was the large candle stick, thirty-eight inches tall and two and a half inches in diameter. A candle was burned in this each night and therein lay the money-making powers of the candlestick, for guesses as to how long it would take to burn it down were sold at five cents apiece. This was donated by Mrs. Louie Reinhimer and Mr. Reinhimer gave a handsome cut glass dish.

"The flower booth in the center was the most beautiful of all, draped in white with a row of electric lights running around the top. Chief among its many beautiful plants was a handsome Boston fern, homegrown, by Mrs. McKee, the chairman. This fern was perhaps the largest in Joplin at that time, many fronds measuring two yards in length. This was donated by the chairman and chances taken on it at ten cents each. Arthur Spencer won this beautiful fern.

"A new feature was introduced the last two days of the fair—a baby show, conducted by T. C. Malloy and C. W. McAbee.

"The babies were held on the stage by their mothers, where they were viewed and reviewed by the admiring visitors and voted on at five cents a vote. Every baby was tagged with a number, while a ballot box of the same number stood by. The first prize of \$5 was won by No. 2; second prize, \$3 in cash by a chocolate colored baby, and the third, \$2 in cash, went to a very dark baby."



## THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

In 1903 the Missouri State Independent Order of Odd Fellows conclave was held in Joplin and, although the convention proper was a small gathering—the representatives being selected by legislation districts (one delegate for each)—it brought together the membership of the three linked fraternities in Joplin. At the date of the grand meeting, the seven Odd Fellows' lodges of Joplin had a combined membership of 1,200 and over 1,000 of these, headed by the ever-popular Canton Lincoln, escorted the delegates through the streets of the city to the place of meeting, the High School auditorium.

As mentioned in our Chapter of the seventies, the Odd Fellows was the first fraternal society to be established in Joplin, and will soon celebrate the fortieth anniversary of its organization.

If a full and complete history of Odd Fellowship in Joplin were written it would make a large volume and the book would be filled with innumerable acts of kindness, the doing of which has made life more worth living, and the recollection of which brings sweet memories to the men who have exemplified the tenets of friendships, love and truth.

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

Joplin Lodge, No. 40, Knights of Pythias, during the past ten years has had an eventful history, having not only conducted a number of most successful social functions, among them the entertainment of the Grand Lodge of the state, but has, on account of its many activities, gained a state-wide reputation. Two of its members have been called to state positions of honor. Col. Joel T. Livingston, of the Third Regiment, U. R. K. P., having been elected in 1903, brigadier general commanding the Missouri brigade, U. R. K. P. which position he held for four years, and Horace Merritt having in 1910 attained the highest office in the gift of the Grand Lodge, being chosen grand chancellor and serving with distinction.

## THE RATHBONE SISTERS

In the Pythian life in Joplin no part of it has been more prominent or deserves more comment than the ladies' auxiliary, the Rathbone Sisters, and more recently called the Pythian Sisters.

This organization was brought about through the appointment of a committee by the Knights of Pythias to formulate plans for the founding of a Rathbone temple. The committee consisted of Mrs. L. C. McCarty, Mrs. Frank Myers, Mrs. L. A. Hunter and Mrs. Lenora H. Livingston. The Rathbone temple has participated in every social function of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias and has been a most helpful auxiliary, sharing, with the Knights, the pleasures that attended their successes and, with tender hands and loving hearts, extending the broad hand of Pythian charity.

Joplin Temple, No. 78, Rathbone Sisters, was organized in 1902, Mrs. S. J. McKee being its first presiding officer and, on account of her very excellent rendition of the principal part of the degree work of the annual convention of the Rathbone Sisters, arose by rapid promotions to the position of grand chief of the state, and, at the 1908 convention, being elected one of Missouri's delegates to the Supreme Lodge. The first affair of the Pythian Sisters, of which the temple was the hostess, was the entertainment of the eleventh district Rathbone convention of Joplin, in March, 1903. The *Joplin Daily Globe* gives the following mention of the convention: "The Third district convention of the Rathbone Sisters of Missouri was held Monday at Pythian hall, No. 413 Main street with an afternoon and evening session. It is spoken of by all who were in attendance as a most successful convention. The hall was a picture of beauty in the colors of the lodge, which are blue, yellow and red, and the arrangement of the decorations reflect great credit upon the ladies of the Joplin temple.

"The convention was graciously and efficiently presided over by Mrs. Joel T. Livingston, deputy grand chief of state. Mrs. S. J. McKee gave the address of welcome and her remarks captivated all who heard them, and were a real bouquet of lovely expressions of welcome.

"A feature which charmed all who heard it was the piano playing of Mrs. A. L. DeArmond, of Carthage. Her first number was the 'March from Tannhauser,' by Wagner Liszt. She was vociferously encored, and responded with 'Tarrentelle,' by Mills. Still her hearers were not satisfied, and a third time she seated herself at the instrument, playing the 'Cradle Song,' by Chopin.

"By this time a superb bouquet of choice roses appeared and were presented to the talented pianiste, who played to the still further delight of all present a composition of her own, which was an arrangement of patriotic airs, or rather airs of the different states of the union. In another number Mrs. DeArmond and Miss Georgie Fitzer, also of Carthage, rendered a duet, 'Boute En Traine,' by Ketterer, and to the inevitable encore Miss Fitzer responded with an arrangement of 'Nearer My God to Thee.'

"The election of officers resulted as follows: Mrs. Eva Rich, of Webb City, grand senior; Mrs. Laura Jackson, of Carthage, grand junior; Miss Davies, of Monett, manager; Miss DeEtta Whitwell, of Joplin, mistress of finance; Miss Grace, of Carterville, protector, and Mrs. L. C. McCarty, of Joplin, guard.

"During the evening there was a contest between the different lodges in the district in ritualistic work, the prize being a loving cup, and was awarded to Mrs. Tina Oliver, of Carterville. The musical features of the evening session were furnished by Mrs. DeArmond, who played 'Il Trovatore' and an arrangement of 'Home Sweet Home,' played with the left hand. Refreshments of ice cream and cake were served by the ladies of the Joplin temple, and the guests were heard to say that the day and evening were delightful to them."

## EL PLOMO TEMPLE, No. 126, D. O. K. K.

El Plomo Temple, No. 126, Dramatic Order Knights of the Khorassan, was instituted in Joplin, February 24, 1905, and was the Mecca around which the Pythians' social life of Jasper county revolved for the next four years. The D. O. K. K. is to the Knights of Pythias what the Shriners' degree is to Masonry and, while it is no part of the Knights of Pythias proper, its membership is confined to that order. El Plomo temple was not a Joplin society, but was composed of members of the order from all over Jasper county and from Galena, Columbus, Weir City and Pittsburg, in Kansas.

The following were the officers:—Royal vizier, J. G. Richardson, Joplin; grand emir, W. E. Harper, Galena, Kansas; secretary, Will F. Shannon, Joplin; treasurer, L. C. McCarthy, Joplin; mehedî, Byron Coon, Joplin; sheik, Floyd Saxton, Webb City; mokanna, C. J. Shortiss, Joplin; joe, George G. Brader, Joplin; master of ceremonies, F. H. Nesbitt, Webb City; Satrap, George H. Boughton, Galena; sahib, Henry Sapp, Joplin; escorts, John Gray, of Carthage; Maddaugh Columbus; representative to Supreme Temple, J. T. Livingston, Joplin. John H. Holmes, imperial nawbob and imperial secretary and H. W. Belding, both of St. Louis, conducted the institution ceremonies. The work of this highly entertaining degree was performed by the officers who had previously been rehearsed in their several parts and was very excellent. Clarence J. Shortiss, who took the part of Mokanna, was especially complimented by the Imperial Nawbob for the masterful way in which he had interpreted his part, saying that he had never seen the work better rendered. J. G. Richardson, Floyd Saxton and George Brader also came in for a liberal share of applause. After the institution of the temple, the one hundred and fifty members partook of a most excellently served banquet at the Clarkton Hotel. Hon. A. E. Spencer was the toastmaster and the following after-dinner speeches were made: The "Doky," by Hon. J. H. Holmes, of St. Louis; "The Kansas Sunflower," W. F. Sapp, Galena; "The Missouri Mule," Howard Gray, Carthage; "When Knighthood Was in Flower," J. T. Livingston, Joplin; "The Goat," John Flannigan, Carthage; "To the Woman Who is Waiting For Me," John Malang, Joplin.

El Plomo Temple held a semi-annual ceremonial at some point in the district during each of the years up to 1909, having exemplified the work and been royally entertained at Galena, Webb City and Pittsburg. The financial distress which followed the panic of 1907, however, somewhat dampened the ardor of the Pythian hosts of Jasper county and no ceremonial was had in 1909 or 1910. At this writing (1911) the Knights at Webb City, which lodge is enjoying a boom of no small dimensions, is reviving the spirit of Khorassan chivalry and it is quite probable that a ceremonial will be held at the Twin Cities during 1912.

The D. O. K. K. numbered during its palmy days three hundred Pythians brave and true.



## THE SCOTTISH RITE MASONS

The principal interest in Masonic circles during the decade was the establishment, at Joplin, of the several Scottish Rite Masonic organizations. The importance of this will be more readily understood when it is cited that Joplin is but one of three cities in the state where the highest degrees of this rite are conferred, and that the Joplin Consistory draws its membership from a radius of one hundred miles around, bringing to Joplin, at the spring and fall convocations of the rite, large numbers of prominent members. The following Scottish Rite Masons, holding their membership at Kansas City, began in November, 1900, the agitation for the establishment of the Scottish Rite, at Joplin, to-wit—George B. Paxton, Robert A. Wilson, George C. Bayne, Levi Riseling, Charles Regan and J. W. McAntire. Their efforts met with success, and in 1901 Martin Collins, sovereign grand inspector for Missouri, recommended to Hon. Jos. D. Richardson, sovereign grand commander, that a Lodge of Perfection be established in Joplin.

## JOPLIN LODGE OF PERFECTION, No. 5

The first regular work of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, at Joplin, occurred at Fellowship Hall. As a preliminary meeting to the organization of Joplin Lodge, No. 5, the degrees from the fourth to the fourteenth were conferred in a class of twenty-seven, the following officers being in the chair: Illustrious Brother Martin Collins, sovereign grand inspector general; George Bailey Paxton, venerable master; William B. Waugh, senior warden; George G. Bayne, junior warden; Jos. W. McAntire, orator; Charles Regan, Almonder; O. H. Picher, treasurer; Robert A. Wilson, secretary; Douglas E. McDowell, master of ceremonies; Cyrus N. Stark, expert; Moses H. Lyon, assistant expert; Albert E. Whitney, tyler. The temporary charter was granted April 8, 1902. The following gentlemen have filled the office of venerable master: 1901, George Bailey Paxton; 1902, Cyrus Nathaniel Stark; 1903, Martin Toner Balsley; 1904, William T. Branham; 1905, William Latour; 1906, William Latour; 1907, Thomas Herron; 1908, Thomas Herron; 1909, Frank Sansom; 1910, Frank Sansom; 1911, Clyde Scott Poole.

## JOPLIN CHAPTER ROSE CROIX, No. 3

The degrees of this branch of the rite, covering the fifteenth to the eighteen, were first conferred in Joplin, April 10, 1902, on a Class of sixty-three. As in the former body, Illustrious Brother Martin Collins directed the work and George B. Paxton, as venerable master, presided. The following are the past venerable masters of Joplin Chapter: 1902, P. N. Davey; 1903, P. N. Davey; 1904, C. G. F. Toepper; 1905, C. G. F. Toepper; 1906, W. C. Glenn; 1907, W. C. Glenn; 1908, H. Scherl; 1909, H. Scherl; 1910, O. P. M. Wiley; 1911, O. P. M. Wiley.



## JOPLIN COUNCIL, No. 3, KNIGHTS OF KODASH

The nineteenth to the thirtieth degrees are conferred by the Council of the Knights of Kodash. This first work of Joplin Council was conferred December 10, 1903. Elroy J. Pratt being the first commander. The work was conferred by the degree team from St. Louis. The following have been called to the office of commanders: 1904, Harry Tamblin; 1905, Elroy J. Pratt; 1907, Elroy J. Pratt; 1908, A. Haughton; 1909, A. Haughton; 1910, L. L. Moore; 1911, L. L. Moore.

## THE CONSISTORY

Joplin Consistory, No. 3, Master of the Royal Secret, was instituted May 5, 1904, and its institution was the crowning jewel in the casket



PUBLIC INSTALLATION JOPLIN CHAPTER, R. A. M., No. 91

of Masonic gems. The following officers filled the principal chairs: 1904-9, P. N. Davey; 1910-11, E. J. Pratt. The membership of the Scottish Rite bodies, not counting those who belonged to two or more of the orders, was on June 30, 1911, six hundred and fifty.

## GRAND CHAPTER ROYAL ARCH MASONS

The meeting of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Joplin in April, 1909, like the meeting of the Templars in 1906, brought many splendid masons to the city and their coming was the signal for the Masons of Joplin—and their number is legion—to bring forth the fatted calf, as it were, and extend to the brethren a royal welcome.

On the afternoon of the first day the officers of the Grand Lodge, together with their ladies, visited Christal Cave and here, beneath the bowels of the earth and among the great drifts of the old mine, they

partook of a well served lunch, after which their pictures were taken by flash light.

In the evening a reception was given which was attended by the members of the craft generally, after which the members of Joplin Chapter, No. 91, exemplified in a most creditable manner the Royal Arch degree.

At the conclusion of the session on the second day the entertainment committee had in waiting four belt line cars, and the entire delegation was taken round the loop and shown the interesting sights at Duenweg, Porto Rico, Prosperity, Carterville and Webb City—a ride of twenty-one miles passing through the richest mining district of the county.

#### W. O. W. LOG ROLLING, SEPTEMBER 10, 1903

The eighth annual log rolling of the Missouri-Kansas Log Rolling Association was held in Joplin, Thursday, September 10, 1903, and was a great event in fraternal circles. Joplin was gaily decorated in honor of the visiting Woodmen and no pains were spared to make the occasion a day of pleasant recollection.

The following executive committee planned and carried out the splendid program: W. L. Cook, chairman, Joplin; J. J. Barnett, Joplin; J. A. Brown, Joplin; W. S. Shelby, Galena; J. W. Kaiser, Fort Scott; W. L. Brockman, Springfield; J. E. Smith, Springfield; M. W. Clark, chairman of transportation committee, Joplin, and Hon. Jas. P. Mead Delegate to Sovereign Camp.

The following officers of the association attended and participated in the deliberations of the business sessions: Verne D. Edwards, Kansas City, president; George B. Moore, Fort Scott, vice president; T. J. Robb, Sedalia, second vice president; L. M. Hicks, Rich Hill, third vice president; James E. Fitzgerald, Kansas City, fourth vice president; F. P. Smith, Joplin, secretary; W. L. Owen, Joplin, treasurer.

It was, in reality, Woodmen's day in Joplin; for the choppers from far and near had left the forest and had made a holiday, as it were, to renew old friendships, meet new neighbors and to celebrate the great achievements of their society.

There were thousands of operative as well as speculative Woodmen present, to contest for the honors to be awarded on the occasion of this big log rolling. Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas, Indian territory and Oklahoma each sent representatives to swell the great multitudes that began arriving on the early morning trains over every railroad entering the city.

The Jayhawker, with his quick, springing step and the breath of the prairies clinging about him, mingled with the tall mountaineer from Arkansas. The Missourian in the meantime mingled with the crowd in the forest, and bid them welcome to the friendship and hospitality which has ever characterized and distinguished the state, believing at the same time that he is a pretty good Woodman himself.

“Log rolling” is an entertainment promoted in the interest of Woodcraft, and to provide an opportunity for the members, their wives, sons, daughters and friends to enjoy a day of pleasure and innocent amusements, become acquainted and cement the bonds of fraternity, friendship and hospitality that have distinguished and adorned the order from its first inception. Some of the principal features of these annual log rollings are exhibition drills by the degree teams of the various camps. The proceedings are always witnessed and attended by large crowds. Instead of using guns and swords like military companies, the teams perform various evolutions and movements with axes—the tools used by operative woodmen to fell the trees of the forest.

The following reception committee from the Joplin Club met the several regular and special trains and escorted the Woodmen up town and to the several places of interest about the city: A. V. Boswell, F. L. Yale, D. D. W. Enrich, G. L. Burkhart, Horace Merritt, Frank Smith, F. W. Manchester and Walter Barrett. Another pleasant and much appreciated act was the placing on Main street by the W. C. T. U. of a number of water barrels, which were kept filled with good ice water and from which the tired and thirsty choppers drank freely.

The exercises proper began at 1 o'clock P. M. with a monster parade, in which five thousand Woodmen participated and which was witnessed by fully twenty thousand spectators. The parade moved in the following order:

Squadron of mounted police.

First division—Kansas Woodmen, W. L. Cook, marshal; Baxter Springs band and six marching companies of Foresters.

Second division—Indian Territory Woodmen, F. V. Kruberg, marshal.

Third division—Arkansas Woodmen, J. A. Brown, marshal.

Fourth division—Missouri Woodmen, Captain Fred Nesbitt, marshal.

In the Missouri division were twenty marching organizations, including the crack drill teams of Butler, Springfield, Rich Hill, Nevada, Webb City and other southwest Missouri towns. The parade organized at the Central school, moved north on Joplin to Third street, and south on Main to Cox park, where the competitive drills took place. The following were the prize winners:

Class A—First prize, Rich Hill; second prize, Fort Scott.

Class B—First prize, Springfield;

Class C (hayseed amateurs)—Blendville camp took the first honors.

The other prizes were as follows: Woodmen circle drill team contest: Little Gem Grove, Blendville.

Largest camp in line: Rich Hill.

Best appearing and best drilled camp in parade: East Joplin camp.

Best float in parade: Fort Scott.

Best decorated emblematic window: Davis T. Keyser.

After the drill contests the Woodmen again assembled at the Central school grounds where a number of splendid Woodmen addresses were made.

#### GRAND LODGE, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

The annual legislative assembly of the Knights of Pythias was held in Joplin, October 17 to 21, 1904, and brought to the city 1,500 members of that great fraternity. The brigade assembly of the U. R. K. P. was held at the same time and there were eight companies of the military branch of the order in attendance, to-wit: Kansas City Company No. 3 and Sicilian Company No. 1, of Kansas City; Webb City Company No. 11; Neosho Company No. 56; Joplin Company No. 40, of the Missouri brigade, and the companies from Galena, Pittsburg and Girard, Kansas. At that time the company at Girard held the world's championship, having carried away first money in the prize drills at Louisville, Kentucky in August of that year. The Pythian parade at the opening of the grand body was an imposing spectacle.

On the opening night at Germania Hall a reception and ball was given complimentary to the red plumed knights and it was a most brilliant affair. As many of the members of the order appeared in uniform, it was a semi-military event and the mingling of the beautiful costumes of the fairer sex with the showy regimentals of the Knights, together with the music which rose with rapturous swell—and half drowned the merry laughter of the dancers,—made a scene of brilliancy long to be remembered. Joplin was profusely decorated with the colors of the order—red, yellow and blue—and the two hotels which served as headquarters. The Keystone, for the Grand Lodge officers, and the Clarkston, for the Pythian Sisters, were decorated most tastefully and in a manner reflecting great credit on the management of these two hostleries.

The badges given the delegates on the occasion were most unique and emblematic of the mining district. On a triangle of zinc, mixed with aluminum, was a raised representation of the King Jack mine. This novel souvenir was suspended from a neatly arranged bow of red, yellow and blue ribbons, making not only an attractive but valuable keepsake.

At the Joplin convention of the Knights of Pythias Hon. George J. Crowther, of St. Joseph, former congressman from the Fourth district, was elected grand chancellor.

At the conclusion of the third day's session the local committee chartered six of the big interurban cars and took the out-of-town visitors, including the ladies, through the mining district, concluding with a visit to the then famous King Jack mine, which was represented on the zinc keepsake mentioned above.

In the prize drills Sicilian Company No. 1, of Kansas City, won the first prize (\$150.00), and Webb City Company No. 11, second (\$100.00). Both of these companies put up excellent drill and won



round after round of applause from the spectators. The exhibition drill of the Girard company was excellent and won for them repeated applause.

#### GRAND COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

The Grand Commandery, Knights Templar, of Missouri, held its annual convention in Joplin May 22-23, 1906. It was one of the most successful encampments which that body has ever attended and the white plumed knights were loud in their praises for the hospitality which had been extended them by the Jasper county Knights; for, in reality it was a Jasper county affair, the Carthage and Webb City Knights joining with the Joplin commandery in making the event a brilliant success. There were five hundred Knights in the city and many were accompanied by their wives.

The feature of the first day was the grand parade, which was participated in by twenty-eight commanderies. The line was in command of Gib W. Carson, of St. Louis, generalissimo of the grand commandery, Grand Commander Campbell Wells, of Platt City, with the other officers of the grand commandery and distinguished guests reviewed the line of march from the balcony of the Elks club house. The parade was a magnificent affair and was witnessed by 15,000 people. The parade, however, brought with it a sadness in the death of Peter Schnur, first editor of the *Joplin Daily News* and a Mason of many years standing. During the parade Mr. Schnur became prostrated by the heat and was obliged to drop out of the line and by a strange coincidence he fell out near his home, No. 626 Sergeant avenue. In a few hours after being taken to his home he died, and a feeling of gloom was cast over the city as the news of his sickness and death passed rapidly from lip to lip.

After the parade the Knights repaired to Barbee Park where the prize drills took place. About two thousand people witnessed the exhibition drills of the crack organizations of St. Louis and Kansas City. Colonel Sinclair was in command of the St. Louis contingent and Captain Samuel Hooker, of Kansas City, appeared at the head of the famous Oriental Commandery drill team.

A combined band of one hundred and fifty pieces was provided for the occasion, and rendered a pleasing concert before the commencement of the drills. The St. Louis commandery was the first to appear on the field and in a series of wonderful evolutions, executed almost without a flaw, won tremendous applause.

Several members of the Grand Commandery occupied seats in a box, from which floated the Grand Commandery flags of the white and black and the national emblem.

Only by the closest attention could the slightest break ever be detected in the ranks of Colonel Sinclair's fine organization, and when extended in line and the viewpoint was from the side, a momentary glimpse of one man marching by was seen. It was a thrilling sight to watch the manoeuvres, and Colonel Sinclair was but a reflection of

the evident pride felt by the men as their work brought out round after round of cheers.

Oriental Commandery, with its own band, took the field and also gave an excellent drill. Their execution of the sword manual brought them the loudest applause.

Following the prize drills there was a dress parade which was participated in by the Grand Commandery, a feature of which was a monster band, made up from the combined bands which had taken part in the parades in the morning and their music made the welkin ring.

#### BALL IN A MINE

Perhaps the most unique and novel entertainment accorded the Templars was a ball which was given by Colonel and Mrs. W. R. Caulkins, of Carthage, which occurred at the plant of the Yellow Dog Mine and was probably the first occasion where a ball was given under such unique and peculiar circumstances. It was not only the place in which the gathering was held, but the fact that, mingled with the music of orchestra, and the merry passage of jest and repartee among the dancers, was the whirl and rumble of the big mill; for, by special arrangement with the employers, a sufficient force of "top men" were working a half shift to enable the guests to enjoy the exceedingly novel and interesting sensation of dividing their time between the grand ball in progress at the north end of the great building and a stroll among the varied equipments of a modern leviathan mining plant in full operation. The north end of the Marigold—in other words, the Yellow Dog—had in very truth been converted, through the artistic work of the decorating committee, into a grand ball room such as was wholly in keeping with the dignity and grandeur of the ancient organization under whose auspices the gathering was held. By most dexterous manipulation of black and white drapery, used interchangeable, looped streamers and the liberal use of bannerets bearing the Masonic and knightly mottoes, "Magna est Veritas," with the maltese cross and "In Hoc Signo Vinces," with the Saint Andrews cross, a strikingly characteristic transformation was obtained from the bare walls of the mill building to a really beautiful assembly hall. An orchestral stage had been erected at the north end, which was draped with the red, white and blue of the stars and stripes, with knightly banners and other ideals of the art decorative, creating a fine background as seen from the body of the hall. Viewed from the orchestra, there was a brilliantly illuminated vista stretching more than 350 feet in a direct line, the hall itself being about half that distance.

The programme began with a grand march in which all present participated and was followed by twenty-six dancing numbers. It was long after midnight when the guests departed and by all the occasion was voted to have been most enjoyable and memorable.

## STATE ENCAMPMENT, UNITED CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Jasper County Camp No. 522, of United Confederate Veterans, entertained the State Encampment at Joplin September 26-27, 1906. This gathering brought to Joplin two hundred and fifty delegates, besides a large number of old veterans with their wives and daughters who accompanied them to participate in the reunion. The sessions were held at the Club Theatre. At ten o'clock Wednesday morning, September 26th, the doors of the theatre were thrown open and in a few moments the building was filled with the Confederate veterans and their friends. After the band had played Dixie, which was loudly cheered, James B. Gant (then a member of the Missouri Supreme Court), major general commanding the Missouri division, U. C. V., rapped for order and introduced Mayor C. W. Lyon, who in turn, introduced H. Clyde Compton, who delivered the formal address of welcome to the veterans. He reviewed the history of the nation with special reference to the principles of government which have been established. In reviewing the Civil war he paid a glowing tribute to the courage and ability of the Southern leaders and soldiery. When he concluded there was no doubt of the sincerity of the welcome which the city extended to the visitors.

"It is one of the chief joys of the Confederate veterans that his children are not ashamed of his record," said Commander Gant in introducing William L. Butts, who welcomed the visiting Sons of Confederate Veterans. Mr. Butts' address was a delightfully eloquent one and met with a hearty reception at the hands of the audience. At this juncture the band again played "Dixie," and the old soldiers went wild with the enthusiasm which the old song provoked.

Commander Gant responded to the welcomes in a short address which aroused the greatest enthusiasm. In part he said: "The Confederate Veterans of Missouri already knew that the hearty welcome to Joplin was theirs before this morning. Already the visitors in this city know that all that Joplin has to offer is theirs. The city of Joplin is a wonder to many of the old soldiers who fought in the battle of Carthage forty years ago when there was no Joplin. Permit me to say that the men who are before you, Mr. Mayor, are worthy of the welcome which has been extended. Among them are men who followed Lee and his peerless lieutenants through the four years of the great conflict. There are those who followed the stars of Hood and Johnston and the great cavalry leaders, Forrest and Shelby. Not to be forgotten are the men from Missouri who, without money, arms, food or equipment, joined 'Pap' Price and fought some of the hardest battles of the war.

"The record of the Confederate soldiers is commendable not only for his military accomplishments, but for what he has done for the south since the close of the war. With his parole, he returned to his once happy home often to find nothing left but the charred chimneys. With nothing left but his honor, his manhood and his trust in God, he began again the battle of life. How magnificently he has succeeded all the world knows. The universities, schools and churches have been



rebuilt. The New South is prosperous and happy as the result of the work of the Confederate soldier." Following this he spoke briefly of the accomplishments of Confederate soldiers in the civic affairs of Missouri.

One of the pleasant features of this meeting was the extending of a hearty welcome by the members of O. P. Morton Post, Grand Army of the Republic, who appointed a reception committee to assist in entertaining the boys who had worn the gray.

Perhaps the most pleasant and delightful bit of entertainment extended the visitors was a reception given at the Keystone Hotel in honor of the Maids of Honor. The parlors were crowded during the hours of the reception. The sponsors and maids of honor who had taken part in the ceremonies of the morning were all in attendance at the reception and were the center of attraction during the afternoon.

Some of them had acquaintances here while for many of them it was their first visit to the mining metropolis. Little time was required for making the acquaintance of the hundreds of Joplin ladies who welcomed them here. The reception will long be remembered in Joplin as a brilliant social function.

The division sponsor and Maids of Honor appointed by General Gant are Miss Helen Chestnut, of St. Joseph, sponsor; Maids of Honor, Miss Jewel Weidemeyer, Clinton; Miss Blanch Kilgore, Carthage; Miss Florence King, Joplin; Miss Genevieve Boadman, Springfield; Miss Virginia Allen, New Madrid; Miss Ada Allen, Liberty; Miss Audrey Budd, Jefferson City; Miss Katheryn Mercer, Independence; Miss Grace McCulloch, St. Louis; Miss Mary A. Ingram, Nevada.

That evening a "love feast" was held by the old soldiers at the rooms of the Commercial Club and proved to be one of the most pleasing of features of the entire day. Despite his protests to be excused, the veterans insisted that Commander Gant should make another speech. Among those gathered there were a number of the members of the local post of the G. A. R. and they enjoyed the occasion as much as any of the others. Commander Gant made a delightful talk which showed clearly that he held no malice toward the soldiers against whom he fought. He was followed by W. Jones, of the local G. A. R., who spoke in the same spirit of good fellowship. Both were heartily received. As the last speaker was nearing the close of his talk, the band from the Lyric theater drove under the window and began playing "Dixie." The speech-making ended with a wild cheer. Three cheers were then given by the old soldiers for the Commercial Club and Joplin, and adjournment was taken to the billiard room where, at the direction of the club, William Drawe had served a splendid lunch. There were sandwiches of every description and liquid refreshments to accommodate all tastes. It was 11 o'clock before the merry assemblage, after much story telling and happy incidents, adjourned.

Perhaps the most active of the Grand Army of the Republic in entertaining the Confederate Veterans was Judge L. A. Fillimore. There were a number of others who assisted him in the promotion of good feel-



ing which was a feature of the day, especially at the meeting last night. Mrs. E. R. Botkin, of the Women's Relief Corps, was also active in the entertainment of the visitors and rendered excellent service to the reception committee on many occasions.

The ball given that same night by the local camp of Sons of Confederate Veterans for the sponsors and Maids of Honor attending the reunion was all that could have been desired. The splendid ball room of the Elks' Club, which had been donated for the purpose by the club, was beautifully decorated. Kachelski's orchestra furnished the music, which was excellent to a degree.

At nine o'clock the music started and the large number of guests attending the ball filled the room completely. Among the donors were a number of the veterans, who once more gave themselves up to this pleasure. They did not indulge to any great extent, however, fearing the results of stiff joints and sore muscles. The young people danced until a late hour.

The following morning a closed session was held in which John B. Stone was elected to succeed James B. Gant, who had stated positively that he was not a candidate for reelection. Then they adjourned at 1:30 in the afternoon and a large dinner was served at the park, at which S. A. Cunningham and Major Newman made addresses.

At the afternoon session which was an open one, there were several reports by Captain George H. Jones, of Springfield, treasurer, W. E. Hall, of Carthage, and several others.

A ladies' quartette, composed of Mrs. C. V. Buckley, Mrs. Harry Miller, Mrs. John McKinsey and Miss Olive Smith sang two numbers, "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Old Black Joe," which aroused much enthusiasm.

The wildest enthusiasm prevailed, however, when Miss Northrup, of Kansas City, in response to a hearty encore came smilingly to the front of the stage and before the veterans realized what she was doing began singing the words to "Dixie." In an instant the veterans were on their feet cheering wildly and waving their hats. Miss Northrup had almost completed the stanza before she could be heard again. After singing the chorus she started to leave the stage, but was recalled. She started the second stanza of the song and again the tremendous cheering began. Incidentally, Miss Northrup sang the song with wonderful sweetness and charm.

#### GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC MATTERS

The Missouri Department Grand Army of the Republic again met in Joplin in 1909 the session occurring May 12-14th.

The meeting brought to the city a large number of the old veterans. It lacked, however, the scenes of excitement and the brilliancy of the encampment of 1893, for the reason that during the sixteen years that had passed away since the great meeting of the nineties, the Grand Commander of the Universe had summoned many of the men who partici-

pated in that gathering to join the Grand Army Triumphant, and many others, now enfeebled by age, could not participate in the festivities.

E. W. Beach, who had been the grand marshal of the parade in 1893, and Galen Spencer, J. V. Pierce and F. M. Redburn, who were his aides-de-camp on that memorable occasion, were among the number who had passed to the great beyond.

L. A. Fillmore, Henry Digby, P. L. Swarts and H. W. Davison were the committee of arrangements and left nothing undone to make the gathering a success; and so well did they perform their duties that the delegates were royally entertained and they received from the department a vote of thanks for their magnificent efforts.

At the opening of the encampment addresses of welcome were made by Mayor Guy T. Humes; A. H. Waite, president of the Commercial Club, and Henry Digby, past commander of O. P. Morton Post, No. 14. G. A. R. Responses were made by the department commander and others.

On the afternoon of the first day there occurred a parade which was participated in by 427 members of the Grand Army, Henry Digby, Post No. 14, being the marshal of the day. A notable feature of the parade was the few who dropped out of the line during the march, nearly every one of the gray-haired veterans remaining in the line to the close.

The Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic, both ladies auxiliaries of this organization, also held their annual conventions in this city, Mrs. Mary F. Botkin, of Joplin, at that time, being the department president of the Woman's Relief Corps. One of the annual features of the Corps is the presentation of a United States flag to some one of the public institutions of the city where the conventions are held, and at the Joplin meeting the emblem of liberty was given to the High school, the presentation speech being made by Mrs. Jilson, of Appleton City. City Councillor Mercer Arnold, as a member of the alumni and on behalf of the schools, made the speech of acceptance. These exercises were very imposing.

Three splendid entertainments were given in honor of the visiting veterans and their ladies: A smoker camp-fire at the Club Theater; a "Dutch lunch" at Germania Hall and a reception and ball at the Elks clubhouse—all of which were much enjoyed. At the reception Mayor Guy T. Humes and department president, Mary Botkin, led the grand march and began the dance.

At the election for department officers in the Grand Army of the Republic, L. A. Fillmore, of Joplin, was chosen junior vice department commander, and P. L. Swarts, also of that city, one of the delegates to the supreme encampment.

#### COMPANY F, SECOND REGIMENT, M. N. G.

Company F was organized February 24, 1910. The first officers of the company were: Captain, F. W. Manchester; first lieutenant, Chas.

F. Gottfried; second lieutenant, Louis E. Hooker; first sergeant, George F. Wolfe. In July of this year business changes made it necessary for Lieutenant Gottfried to retire from the company and he was succeeded by Lieutenant Hooker. The same month Sergeant Wolfe was promoted to be first lieutenant and battalion adjutant. Thomas S. Bradshaw was elected second lieutenant and James B. Blankenship was made first sergeant.

Company F has made an enviable reputation at rifle practice. The company's score at the rifle range at Nevada in 1911 was far above the average. The following five members of the company having won marked distinction.

Expert Rifle Men—Captain F. W. Manchester, Lieutenant L. E. Hooker, Lieutenant G. F. Wolfe and Corporal L. D. Gass.

Marksman—First Sergeant James B. Blankenship.

In order that the reader may understand the proficiency of these five we give the following military folklore. To be an expert rifleman, the soldier must make at least 295 points out of a possible 450 shots. A sharp shooter must make 185 out of a possible 250. Marksman 98 out of a possible 150.

## CHAPTER XLVI

### GENERAL CLUB AND SOCIAL LIFE

JOPLIN CLUB'S SOCIAL SESSION, JANUARY 1, 1900—PRESIDENTS, 1900-1911—MISSOURI BANKERS' ASSOCIATION—JOPLIN WOMEN ENTERTAIN FEDERATED CLUBS—THE AMERICAN MINING CONGRESS—THE SALT AND PEPPER CLUB—JOPLIN CHORAL UNION.

As in the nineties, the Joplin Club continued to be the great motive power in the pushing of Joplin's interests and accomplished much good for the city in a commercial and business way.

During the early part of the decade many new faces were seen at the weekly meetings of the club and the new blood, which was judiciously mixed with the old, made the organization exceedingly useful. The fire and vigor of the young men, and the wise counsel of the older members, made a good combination and the club did things for the city and community at large.

The year 1900 was ushered in with a smoker, which was largely attended. The speeches all showed that the men of the club had caught the fever for a greater and better Joplin and, because of the importance of this meeting—both on account of the things planned and the good that came from it—we give here a brief account of the proceedings had at this initial meeting of the new century.

#### JOPLIN CLUB'S SOCIAL SESSION, JANUARY 1, 1900

The club rooms were well filled with a representative gathering of Joplin's business and professional men. Good will and best wishes prevailed on this happy New Year's day, and there was a feast of reason, and a flow of wit, while the entertainment committee had not been unmindful of the "spiritual" welfare of the visitors. An air of good fellowship prevailed, and, without doubt, this social session drew the business men of the city closer together and the plans that were laid redounded not only to the good of the club but the city at large.

The club rooms were tastefully draped with the American colors, the entire north end of the assembly room being hidden by the folds of an enormous flag and numerous smaller ones were placed here and there. The meeting was called to order by President E. O. Bartlett, who expressed the hope that those present would profit so much by what was said and done that they would take an active interest in the club's efforts



and well being and assist to make Joplin what it ought to be—a city of 100,000 people. He then called George B. Paxton to preside over the meeting.

Mr. Paxton said the club was the author and originator of most of the good things that had come to Joplin in recent years, but the membership was too limited among business men to accomplish what ought to be done. If every business man in the city was a member of the club and lent his efforts to its good calling, it would be an easy matter to make Joplin a city of 100,000.

L. P. Cunningham, one of the oldest citizens, and who, as mentioned in our chapter of the seventies, was responsible for the building of the first railroad into Joplin, was called upon and responded with a happy and profitable speech of some twenty minutes' length. He gave some interesting reminiscences of the early days and pointed out clearly the fact that Joplin would be just what the people made her. What we should do in 1900 is to build smelteries here in Joplin, where the ore is produced. Joplin could get anything she wanted if she would go after it right.

Percy Wenrich was introduced as a Joplin product and rendered a delightful piano solo. He was generously encored and responded with one of the popular pieces of the day. Mr. Wenrich is now a resident and a composer and musician of note in the metropolis.

Judge Galen Spencer was introduced as the first president of the Joplin Club at its organization, October 29, 1888. The judge indulged in many pleasant reminiscences and said that what the club had done for the upbuilding of Joplin was a matter of history and everybody knew it. In connection with the coming visit to Joplin of the Kansas State Press Association, the judge referred to the visit of the Kansas bankers last fall and said that it was but meet and proper that the newspaper men should be entertained equally as well and sent to their homes with a good opinion of Joplin and the Joplin Club.

General James A. Huston, of New York, ex-treasurer of the United States, was next introduced. In part he said: "I have just arrived after a long, tiresome trip from New York, and am hardly able to make a speech—in fact did not expect to—but I want to say that I am greatly surprised at what I have seen since coming here. We often meet people in the east who know about Joplin and we hear a great deal of it, but at the best we have a very imperfect idea of the magnitude of your great industry. I met a gentleman in St. Louis who had been to Joplin and returned. He said that Joplin was on the decline and that there were plenty of vacant storerooms, and especially plenty of vacant rooms in the hotels. (Laughter.)\* He said that Arkansas was now the great center of interest. I never saw a place where there were so many wagons on the streets and so many other evidences of industry and business of

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\*At this time Joplin was at the height of a boom and there was not a vacant house on Main street

all kinds. I believe that fellow came here and didn't get what he wanted. I don't believe anybody can foretell the great future in store for Joplin, or any other town in this mining district. Just such organizations as the Joplin Club are potent factors in the upbuilding of any town and just as much devolves upon the lawyers and preachers as anyone else. Every business man and citizen in town should lend his support and influence to the club in the upbuilding of the town.

"I have been ill for several days, a part of the time in bed, and was not really able to make a speech, but I want to say that I will take back to the east many happy remembrances of my visit to Joplin. I will be here for several days yet, and want to meet the business men of the town. I expect to visit Joplin again soon. Gentlemen, I thank you."

General Houston was greeted with great applause, after which the chairman announced a recess of ten minutes for refreshments and cigars.

Upon reassembling bright speeches were made by Hon. Thomas Dolan, of Joplin; Judge Brown, late of Topeka and formerly clerk of the federal court of Kansas at Topeka; Attorney J. W. McAntire, of Joplin; J. P. and Joseph Stewart, of the Webb City Commercial Club; and Attorney R. W. McClelland, late of Clay county and a former college chum of George B. Paxton. As a finale to the evening's program, Jesse Cooper, the efficient and obliging colored adjunct of the club, was introduced and, to the strains of a popular air played by Percy Wenrich, gave an exhibition of the cake walk accompanied by a smile that would make any fair dusky damsel weep for joy. At 11 o'clock the meeting adjourned and the members and their guests went home feeling that the new year had been started out aright.

During the past eleven years the club has, as in the nineties, been exceedingly active. It has secured for the city, by its efforts, quite a number of new enterprises and has brought to Joplin much outside capital. In 1906 it purchased and platted a forty-acre tract of land into city lots and placed the profit from these sales into a "booster fund," to be used in advertising Joplin's resources and securing new industries for the city. A second addition was platted and placed on the market two years later but, owing to the after effects of the panic of 1907, was not so successfully disposed of as the first.

The Joplin Club changed its name to The Commercial Club of Joplin in 1906.

#### PRESIDENTS, 1900-1911

The following have served as presidents during the past eleven years: 1900, E. O. Bartlett; 1901-2, O. H. Pieher; 1903, T. W. Cunningham; 1904, Marion Staples; 1905, Jerome B. Trigg; 1906, Max Wolfroth; 1907-8, W. A. Sandford; 1909, A. H. Waite; 1910, Henry Weyman; 1911, F. L. Yale, C. S. Poole.

#### MISSOURI BANKERS' ASSOCIATION

The meeting of the State Bankers' Association May 20-21, 1908, brought to Joplin fully one thousand visitors, and they were most royally

entertained by the Joplin Club and the local bankers. This was the first convention which had met in Joplin after the opening of the Connor Hotel, and the management did its full share in the matter of entertainment. The Connor, which had been selected as headquarters, was literally filled with bankers.

On the evening of the 19th an informal reception was held at the hotel and after everyone had gotten acquainted a booklet, containing glimpses of the mining activities of the district and points of interest, were distributed to the financiers.

The convention was held in the New Joplin theater and was presided over by George A. Neil, of Moberly.

Previous to the formal opening of the convention, a gavel made of wood, lead and zinc was presented to the presiding officer by the bankers of Joplin. Addresses of welcome were made by Mayor J. F. Osborn and President E. B. Jacobs, of the Jasper County Bankers' Association.

To give an idea of the magnitude of the convention, we mention that Missouri had the largest bankers' association of any state in the Union at the date of this convention, 1,158 banks in the state holding membership.

On the afternoon of the first day of the convention and while the financiers were disposing of the business of the association, Mrs. A. H. Waite tendered to the wives of the bankers who were in attendance a most delightful reception. The beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Waite was profusely decorated with roses, ferns and palms, and pink roses were given to each of the guests as favors. In the receiving line with Mrs. Waite were Mesdames J. E. Garm, J. A. Cragin, T. B. Jenkins, C. W. Bartlett, J. T. Wise, Howard Murphy, H. M. Ramsey, F. T. Snapp, William Houke and V. F. Church. During the entire afternoon an orchestra, half hidden from view by a bower of roses, played, and this effect added much to the brilliancy of the occasion. Refreshments were also served.

On the evening of the first day a ball and musical was given at the Auditorium, and was a most enjoyable occasion. Previous to the dance a musical program was rendered by the Apollo Club, twenty-five strong, under the direction of F. B. Rogers. For those who did not dance a "Dutch lunch" was served at the Joplin Club. This function was under the direction of E. O. Bartlett, the prince of entertainers, and the lunch was said to have been of such excellence as would have tempted even the gods.

An auto and trolley ride on the last day concluded the program.

#### JOPLIN WOMEN ENTERTAIN FEDERATED CLUBS

On January 26, 1903, the club women of southwest Missouri met in Joplin for the purpose of organizing the Seventh District Association of Women's Federated Clubs. The president of the district association



became, by virtue of her office, one of the vice presidents of the State Federation. The club women had for their guest Mrs. F. L. Moore, state president of the Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs. One hundred and fifty delegates, representing the clubs at Carthage, Webb City, Sarcoux, Monette, Aurora, Marionville and other southwest Missouri points, were in attendance. The sessions of the convention were held in the First Presbyterian church and that handsome edifice was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Conspicuous in the costumes of the visitors, as well as the members of the local committee, were strands of white and yellow ribbon, the badge of the Federation. The visitors were met, on their arrival, by a reception committee composed of Mesdames G. A. Clymer, Branham, M. H. Keeley and Rice, representing the Joplin Federated Clubs. When all had assembled, Mrs. A. A. Carey arose and introduced the state president, Mrs. F. L. Moore. She said: "It is one of the delights of this meeting that we have with us our state president, Mrs. Moore, and it is a further delight to know that she will preside over us. We will now have demonstrated the example of a perfect presiding officer."

Mrs. Moore made a brief and feeling response to the applause of welcome and in the absence of Dr. Porter, who was to have delivered the invocation, announced a silent invocation.

Dr. Porter, pastor of the First Baptist church, arrived soon after, and at the call offered an eloquent prayer with the parting wish that progress and prosperity attend the women in their work.

An instrumental solo "Last Hope" (Gottschalk) was excellently rendered by Miss Hazel Hickey, her instrument being the prize piano won by the Choral Club at Kansas City, two years before.

Mrs. C. S. Walden placed the name of Mrs. Mary Brader, of the Century Club of Carthage, in nomination for secretary for the day, and by unanimous vote Mrs. Brader was declared elected.

The address of welcome, on behalf of the Joplin club women, was made by Mrs. Mary Troutman, of the Emerson club, and seldom was a more eloquent address ever tendered the visitor to Joplin. Mrs. Troutman was well known in the State Federation and it was especially appropriate that she should be chosen to welcome the visiting ladies. She said in substance that there should be nothing but pleasure in the first meeting of the District Federation; that the noble thoughts and inspirations of the scientists and historians and writers should be the connecting link between them as sisters in club work. She then paid tribute to each of the five federated clubs of the city, extending to the visitors a welcome from each. In the closing lines of her talk, Mrs. Troutman presented Mrs. Moore with a handsome bouquet of American Beauty roses as a token of welcome. Her address closed with the encouraging words: "Friendship, earnestness and zeal will make this, the Seventh district, the banner one of the State Federation."

Mrs. J. M. Whitsell, of Carthage, responded for the visitors. She said that the delegates to the District Federation were to be congratulated that the first meeting should be held in Joplin, which was such a



wonderful city in its untiring energy, its rapidly growing mercantile interests, its culture and intelligence, and its women, so large hearted and earnest, who have its best interests at heart and never fail to work for those interests at home or abroad. "To talk it over" is the delight of every woman's heart—be it dolls, sweethearts, husbands, babies or clubs, so it is with great interest that the clubs come together to talk, to gain, to give, to learn more of organized club efforts. She said that in this sympathetic and congenial atmosphere of friendship and good will no one should hesitate to ask questions that may bring knowledge. No one should feel that what she had to say would not be received with attention and respect; that they were there to learn and teach.

"The idea of district meetings of the federations is one to be heartily commended because the number of delegates will be small enough that the timid sister can speak. Cooperation works wonders in bringing club women together and giving them a unity of interests. Every little study club, every big philanthropic club, every club whose object is helpful work for others and themselves, is working for the same object—the uplifting, the upbuilding of humanity. It is a poor ideal of any organization or individual to have, that holds for self alone, and that club which looks but to the pleasure of the moment, keeping as it were the sacred circle closed about it, is not using the power for good which lies with its members. Every club by extending its influence, clasping hands with the neighboring club, uniting influences and joining forces, can become a wonderful factor for good in its community."

A three minute report from each of the clubs in the federation was then heard with interest. Mrs. Miller reported for the Saturday Club of Aurora. From Carthage Mrs. Gray reported for the Alpha club; Mrs. Mary Brader for the Century club; Mrs. Hobbs and Mrs. Wallace for the City Federation. From Joplin, Mrs. Dangerfield reported for the Century club; Mrs. T. W. Van Sciever for the Emerson; Mrs. Joseph Rice for the Looking Forward; Mrs. J. W. Babbitt for the Morning Reciprocity; Mrs. Henry Weymann for the Unity club, the oldest club in the city. From Monett, Mrs. Kennedy reported for the Woman's club. From Neosho, Mrs. Robeson, of the Unity club, gave a report. Mrs. Hawthorne reported for the Sarcoxie club. Mrs. Geo. H. Bruen, a member of the state board, reported from Webb City in behalf of the Woman's Study Club.

The contralto solo, "Twilight" (Nevin) was rendered by Mrs. C. V. Buckley in her usual charming manner, accompanied by Mrs. Charles Dudley Pratt. This concluded the morning program.

In the afternoon, Mrs. Moore, the state president, gave her address to the Federation. She said, in brief, that they had come together to select a president for that district. In choosing a president, who serves three years, they must look at the qualifications of the one who will guide

them through even more difficult mazes than the state can offer. She must be a woman of tact and ability, a woman of judgment, because she is vice president of the state, by virtue of her office she holds as president. She must be progressive, never aggressive. She must be thoroughly acquainted with the clubs of the district. She must assist at the organization of new clubs. One danger to local clubs unallied to state clubs is that they get so absorbed in their own work as to crowd out the comprehension of the work going on throughout the country.

Miss Gertrude Robinson rendered an exquisite solo on the beautiful and soft-toned Italian harp. The question box was presided over by Mrs. W. M. Howe, of Aurora.

A report from the State Federation was given by Mrs. Smith, of Monett. Mrs. Will A. Hacker, now Mrs. A. R. Fuller, one of Joplin's most gifted soprano soloists, gave a selection. Mrs. A. A. Carey gave an interesting talk on Shakespeare, in behalf of Mrs. Wadworth, state lecturer. The reports from the standing committees were read, after which the election of president took place. By unanimous vote of the federation Mrs. John J. Donehoo, of the Century Club, was elected president.

Mrs. Donehoo's name was placed before the assembly by Mrs. Charles U. Porter. There were no other nominations, and when Mrs. Philip Moore, the presiding officer, called the vote, every delegate in the room answered yea. Mrs. Donehoo was therefore elected president of the Seventh District Federation. Immediately upon adjournment, Mrs. Donehoo was showered with congratulations, both from her closer club associates and from the visiting delegates who had so chosen to honor a Joplin club woman.

The selection of Mrs. Donehoo was a happy one and paid to the younger club woman of Joplin a well deserved compliment. Mrs. Donehoo was one of the original members of the Century Club, then one of the strongest and most active of the literary clubs of the city. It had on its rolls the names of some of the most cultured young women and had not only created a strong literary sentiment among the young women of the city, but had taken a lively interest in raising the literary and moral standard of the community. Mrs. Donehoo had taken a personal interest in championing the cause of the public library, and had also devoted much of her time to the matter of civic improvement and out-of-door beautification. She was in every way fitted for the high honor and discharged her duties with credit to the club to which she belonged.

#### THE AMERICAN MINING CONGRESS

At a meeting of the Joplin Commercial Club, in 1906, it was decided to ask the American Mining Congress to hold its 1907 session at Joplin and a committee, consisting of H. H. Gregg, Chris Guengerich and Clay Gregory, was sent to Denver, where the 1906 meeting was held, and were successful in landing the congress for 1907. The assemblage was held November —, 1907, and was a most important meeting.

The delegates to the congress were from every part of the United States and Canada where mining operations are conducted and the discussions were along the lines of more scientific and more profitable mining laws and usages. The congress was especially helpful to the Missouri-Kansas mining district, because it brought together nearly every prominent mine operator in the zinc-lead belt and a number of conferences were held looking to a general policy relative to local conditions.

Hon. J. H. Richards, of Boise City, Idaho, was the president of the congress, and J. F. Callbrath, of Denver, Colorado, secretary. The sessions of the congress lasted for ten days and we regret that the lack of space forbids a lengthy mention of the discussions. Secretary Callbrath is quoted as saying, on the concluding day, that the Joplin meeting had been not only the most profitable, but the most enjoyable session which, up to that time, had been held.

#### THE SALT AND PEPPER CLUB

On January 16, 1900, a new literary and social club was formed, known as the Salt and Pepper Club and for a number of years was a very popular organization. Its monthly meetings were very brilliant affairs and at each, after a dinner, a number of addresses were made. Among the many who were guests of the club were Hon. Herbert Hadley, E. A. Krattoff and James A. Reid. The *Joplin Daily Herald* gives the following account of its first banquet and literary symposium, which was held at the Keystone Hotel: "This new feature of Joplin's social life, which in its formative period was known as the 'Seven O'clock Club' at the suggestion of Rev. Paul W. Brown, was christened the 'Salt and Pepper Club' and was a source of genuine entertainment and much profit to its members. The motto of the club was very unique, 'You can't tell when knowing a man is going to come in handy.' It was to promote the pleasures of social intercourse which is always rendered more brilliant by the glow of the festal board. To this end a banquet was held monthly, at which time the club was addressed by speakers from Joplin and the other cities of this and adjoining states.

"Preliminary to the banquet there was a business meeting, at which a constitution and by-laws were adopted, and officers elected, who are—O. D. Royce, president; W. H. Picher, first vice president; J. D. Eliff, second vice president; Julius Becker, treasurer; H. S. Miller, secretary; and Rev. Paul W. Brown, F. J. Hart, A. E. Spencer, Dr. J. D. Pifer and J. H. Spencer, executive committee.

"By the time the company, numbering one hundred and twenty, were admitted to the elegant new Keystone dining room, their appetites were fully equal to the bountiful and delicious repast. (The Keystone has now ceased to be a hotel.) After the last course, President Royce introduced E. A. Krauthoff, a prominent attorney and then of Kansas City, who responded to the toast, 'The American Regular,' the speaker having been intimately associated by blood and good friendship, with



the regulars of the United States, and who knew them well enough to put behind his graceful and easy delivery, the eloquent words of patriotic admiration and fervor. He touched briefly, but effectively, on nearly every phase of the regular soldier's life, not forgetting those brave ones who, although not on the muster roll, are nevertheless a noble part of our army—"The wives and daughters of the officers and men." Mr. Krauthoff's eloquent presentation of the light and shade of the regular's life won for him unbounded admiration from all those present.

"A quartette contributed to the pleasure of the evening.

" 'The American Volunteer,' which is a favorite subject with all, was responded to by a favorite, the late Col. Chas. H. Morgan, then of Lamar (but since a resident of our city until his death), who did full justice to a subject that was very near to his heart and whose words brought forth many rounds of applause. Colonel Morgan's idea was that the American volunteer soldier is not a machine, but a man and a fighter with brains and nerve. He pictured the British in South Africa as lacking just the qualities the American volunteer possesses and attributed their failure to this. Colonel Morgan declared himself an expansionist and insisted that it was a question in which there were no politics.

"At the close of Mr. Morgan's remarks a toast to the 'Stars and Stripes' was drunk standing. Another song by the quartette was followed by a forceful and suggestive speech from Judge James A. Slanker, of Boston, an 'Expansion.' The speaker dwelt principally upon the commercial view of the question, and declared it to be the best and wisest course to pursue to furnish a market for our industries and products. Judge Slanker made a distinct impression and was warmly congratulated.

"At the close of the program, 'America' was sung by all. It was indeed a patriotic meeting."

#### THE JOPLIN CHORAL UNION

A write up of Joplin's social and educational life would not be complete without a mention of the Joplin Choral Union, which played a large part in Joplin's musical life during the first and middle part of the last decade. The Choral Union was organized in the fall of 1899, with Prof. W. H. Sieb, late of Kansas City and a musician of note, as the director. The club made its first public appearance the last day of the year, 1899, and on account of its splendid singing came into great popularity. The club gradually grew in membership until the middle of the decade, when it numbered one hundred and fifty singers.

In 1901, 1902 and 1903 the choral club took part in the May musical festival at Kansas City, where organizations from the principal cities of Missouri and Kansas competed for honors.

In 1901 the Joplin Choral Union won second prize in this contest and brought home as its trophy a \$600 grand piano. The next year it carried away the first honors. At the conclusion of its rendition of *The Heavens are Telling*, the Union was vigorously applauded. The



ten thousand people who were present at Convention Hall applauded for at least five minutes.

In 1903 Walter Wheatley, a native of Jasper county, a rising young musician, who is now leading tenor of the Royal Convent Gardens, London, was chosen director and continued his leadership until his departure for Europe.



THE COURT HOUSE AT CARTHAGE

## CHAPTER XLVII

### CITY OF CARTHAGE

LOCAL POLITICS AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS—MUNICIPAL WATER WORKS SYSTEM—BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS—CENTRAL PARK—CARTHAGE SCHOOLS DURING THE LAST DECADE—SUPERINTENDENT J. M. WHITE RETURNS—TEACHERS' RECEPTION BY PRESIDENT LOGAN—SCHOOL CHILDREN HELP BEAUTIFY CARTHAGE—ARBOR DAY, 1903—CARTHAGE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI—THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY—EASTERN STAR AND ITS SILVER ANNIVERSARY—THE M. W. A. LOG ROLLING—KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—THE CHAUTAUQUA—THE MISSOURI STATE BANKERS' ASSOCIATION—COMPANY A, SECOND REGIMENT, N. G. M.—THE KNELL FAIR.

The record of Carthage during the opening decade of the century is well worthy of emulation by other municipalities and communities. Naturally, we first speak of those matters which most intimately concern her as a civic corporation, as a city, including especially within that province her municipal elections and the improvements in her various departments devoted to education, parks, water supply, etc.

#### LOCAL POLITICS AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

The following gentlemen served the city of Carthage during the present century as its officers.

General election in April, 1900: Mayor, J. S. Ross; marshal, S. E. Drake; police judge, H. L. Bright; city attorney, H. J. Green; collector, Homer D. Smith; treasurer, R. S. Black; assessor, S. S. Riley.

Councilmen: First ward, W. V. Black, with F. G. Laubach holding over; second ward, James Spence with D. M. Stafford; third ward, George Brown, with W. W. Brinkley; fourth ward, J. C. Griscomb, with J. B. Chaffee; fifth ward, T. L. Wiggins, with J. A. McLean.

General election 1901: Councilmen—James P. Newell, D. M. Stafford, M. F. Viernaw, J. B. Chaffee and A. P. Hamilton.

General election 1902: Mayor, Jerome B. Chaffee; marshal, D. M. Stafford; police judge, H. L. Bright; city attorney, J. T. Shannon; collector, Homer D. Smith; treasurer, Hale M. Boggs; assessor, S. S. Riley.

Council: First ward, H. G. Tanger, James Spence, George Brown, W. Schuter and R. J. Chaffin.

Councilmen elected in 1903: First ward, Ray S. Beam; second ward, D. W. Keltner; third ward, Wesley Ralston; fourth ward, W. H. Stout; fifth ward, Curtis Wright.

General election, 1904: Mayor, J. T. Harrison; marshal, D. M. Stafford; police judge, J. B. Loyd; city attorney, Jos. D. Harris; collector, Homer D. Smith; treasurer, H. M. Bogges; assessor, J. A. McLean.

Council: First ward, C. B. Gammon; second ward, G. C. Hawanstein; third ward, A. M. Wallingford; fourth ward, G. C. Kellogg; fifth ward, C. M. Kitchum.

Councilmen elected in 1905: Ray S. Beam, Wesley Ralston, J. S. Ross, W. H. Stout and Geo. A. Evans.

General election, 1906: Mayor, J. P. Leggett; marshal, Owen Doty; police judge, J. B. Loyd; city attorney, Jas. D. Harris; collector, Homer D. Smith; treasurer, Hale M. Boggs; assessor, G. W. Woodford.

Councilmen: First ward, Michael Torphy and R. L. Mars; second ward, R. A. Moneyham; third ward, A. M. Wallingford and E. A. Cunningham; fifth ward, P. N. Wiggins. In the fourth ward C. M. Ketchum and Eugene O'Keefe each received 192 votes and the election, being a tie, was decided by the council which chose Mr. Ketchum on a strict party vote.

Councilmen elected in 1907: Ed. Murdock, J. A. Cherry, John W. Gray, Ed. Ingle and S. J. Barber.

General election in 1908: Mayor, J. P. Leggett; marshal, James Deagan; city attorney, Ray A. Hackinsmith; collector, Homer D. Smith; treasurer, W. H. Waters, Jr.; assessor, R. J. Knight.

Councilmen: W. H. Black, L. D. Heath, Harry Strickland, Geo. W. Miller and Millary Bryan.

Councilmen elected in 1909: Jno. T. Ruffin, G. A. Gibson, J. D. Carter, Ed. Garland and Robert F. Glenn.

The following officers were elected at the general election, 1910-11, and are serving the city at the date of publication: J. P. Leggett, mayor; James B. Loyd, city clerk; Robert Jones, marshal; James Deagan, police judge; George W. Crowder, attorney; W. H. Waters, Jr., treasurer; H. D. Smith, treasurer; R. J. Knight, assessor; W. G. Kasken, street commissioner; S. S. Mathews, chief fire department; U. L. Landreth, plumbing and sanitary inspector; F. B. Newton, city engineer; W. H. Gentry, M. D., physician; W. J. Houser, milk inspector.

Board of public works: C. B. Platt, president; S. C. Boggess, W. H. Black and I. C. Hodson.

Councilmen: M. F. Thomas and J. H. Wilber, first ward; Tom Pennington and G. L. Abrams, second ward; J. D. Carter and J. C. Hildreth, third ward; Geo. W. Miller and D. S. Emerson, fourth ward; John W. Griggs and Charles Tobias, fifth ward.

#### MUNICIPAL WATERWORKS SYSTEM

The electric light plant built by the city in 1897 having been successful in its operation, it was proposed to build a waterworks system



to be owned and operated by the city. When the franchise of the old Carthage Water Company should expire. At a special election March 12, 1907, the city authorities were authorized, by a vote of 1,420 to 1,146, to issue bonds in the sum of \$220,000 to build a waterworks system. The contract for the construction was let May 25, 1908, and the plant completed in 1910 and so far has proved highly satisfactory.

#### BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

After the voting of the waterworks bonds the City Council, by an ordinance duly passed, created an executive department for the management of the waterworks system and the electric light plant. The mayor named as the first Board of Public Works the following: W. A. Turner, James S. Ross, C. B. Platt and C. C. Catron. This board devoted much time to the supervision of the waterworks system and the city very greatly profited by their wise business judgment and self-sacrifice. Each member of the Board of Public Works receives as compensation for his services \$100 per year.

#### CENTRAL PARK

Early in 1900 the club woman of Carthage began to agitate the question of beautifying the City Park and took the initiative by erecting a beautiful fountain which was put in place during the spring and formally presented to the city, May 3, 1900.

The presentation speech was made by Mrs. T. B. Hobbs, president of the Federation of Women's Clubs, who in an eloquent little talk made a plea for a more beautiful Carthage. This fountain adds very greatly to the general appearance of the park and stands as a monument to the club women who began a new era in civic improvement at the county seat.

The building of this fountain had more than a passing interest because it set the example for out-of-door beautification and, as a result, the laws of the city were a little better kept. The club women offered prizes to the school children for the best kept lawns, the most beautiful flower beds, the most graceful vines, etc., and the competition was brisk.

On the occasion of the presentation of the fountain to the city the name of the park was christened Central Park, and has since been known by that name.

#### CARTHAGE SCHOOLS DURING THE LAST DECADE

1900 found the schools of Carthage in a most flourishing condition. W. J. Stevens, the superintendent, was a most excellent organizer and possessed the three most essential requisites for a school superintendent. He was a scholarly man and commanded the respect of both the pupils and the public; he was a diplomat and put forth his idea and plans in

such a manner that there was practically no friction in the movement of the school machinery, and, lastly, he was an advertiser, in that he kept the school system before the public and thus had not only the pupils, but the patrons interested. And, with the keen interest of the parents maintained and the universal cooperation of the public, the schools attained a high standard.

In 1902, Professor Stevens accepted a position in St. Louis, which carried with it much prestige and a much larger salary, and was succeeded by G. M. Holiday, of Independence, who remained in charge of the schools for two years.

#### SUPERINTENDENT J. M. WHITE RETURNS

At the annual election of teachers in 1903 the superintendency was tendered to J. M. White, then high school examiner of the State University, and after an absence of six years he returned to Carthage and has remained at the head of the school since that time. Superintendent White was very greatly beloved in Carthage, and his return was hailed with great delight by his many friends.

We present here a few of the school happenings which will give an idea of the character of the work, the methods pursued and the results accomplished. A list of the High School graduates from the first class in 1880 to that of 1911 will appear at the conclusion of this article.

#### TEACHER'S RECEPTION BY PRESIDENT LOGAN

For many years it has been the custom for some members of the Board of Education during the school year to entertain the teachers of the city. These receptions have been given from time to time, primarily for the purpose of bringing the teachers and directors closer together in a social way, and, as the bonds of friendships have been strengthened, the teacher and board have worked more harmoniously together. We present here an account of the reception tendered by W. R. Logan, president of the Board of Education in 1900.

One of the most delightful of the annual receptions in honor of the teachers occurred May 10, 1900, at the beautiful home of President W. R. Logan. The two parlors and the reception halls were tastefully decorated in green and white, and this color scheme lent an additional charm to the otherwise brilliant affair. The Carthage Light Guard orchestra was present and rendered a number of selections.

President and Mrs. Logan were assisted by the members of the Board of Education and their wives, Superintendent and Mrs. W. J. Stevens, Mrs. Geo. Webster and Miss Lyda Weil. As the guests entered the reception hall they were met by Miss Weil who pinned on each a boutonniere of carnations and Mrs. Webster presided at the sideboard and served, most charmingly, frappe and other dainty refreshment. Although it was a stormy night, one of the worst rains of the season com-

ing on, only five of the invited guests stayed away. The evening was most delightfully spent and every one was amply repaid for having braved the storm.

The following teachers and members of the board participated in the affair: Messrs. and Mesdames Robert Moore, W. J. McClurg, E. B. Jacobs, T. B. Luscomb and C. C. Catroon of the Board of Education, assisting President and Mrs. Logan; Superintendent and Mrs. W. J. Stevens; W. J. Whybark, supervisor of music; Misses Lulu Van Neman, Helen Cunningham, Winifred Bryan, Pauline Kirk, Lida B. Perry, May C. Biffer, Nellie S. Cate, Grace McCarty, Myrtle Thomas, Gertrude Post, Lizzie Pieffer, Gertrude Fugitt, Lena Confer, Lulu Freed, Bessie Lundy, Ethel Cragin, Ora M. Cupp, Francis Hall, Florence Fabyan, Ethel Newgent, Janet Schurman, Hattie Perry, Lizzie Russum, Mattie Bardow, V. May Smith, Francis Chapman, Pearl Blake, Lillian Baker, Myrtle Collier, Edna Baird, Nellie McCarty, Grace Hutchinson and Edna Gladden; principals—S. W. Howland, G. J. Hout and H. C. Kilburn.

#### SCHOOL CHILDREN HELP BEAUTIFY CARTHAGE

In the spring of 1900 the Women's Federated Clubs of Carthage began agitating the question of out-of-door beautification and offered to the pupils of the Carthage schools prizes aggregating seventy dollars for the most beautiful flower bed, the neatest and best-kept lawn, the prettiest running vine, etc. This prize offering excited great interest, and as a result Carthage was made even more beautiful than before.

Superintendent Stevens invited every pupil, large or small, who felt an interest in the art of civic beautification to write an essay to be read in school, and in these writings tell what might be done to beautify the homes of Carthage. One thousand essays were written and their reading awakened a most intense interest, and so excellent were some of the thoughts that Superintendent Stevens, on invitation of the directors of the Chicago Art convention, took fifty of the best of these essays on out-of-door beautification to Chicago and they were read by hundreds of people who took great delight in their perusal.

These contests for the beautification of Carthage became very popular. The following prizes were offered in 1902 and were competed for by the school children of the city.

Flower bed contest—In this contest the flower beds contained not less than sixty square feet.

(1) Asters raised with access to hydrant water: First prize, Carthage Water Company, \$5.00; second prize, the Wells & Wiggins Company premium, \$2.50; third prize, the B. S. Briles premium, a five-pound box of candy, \$2.00. Judges: Mesdames R. E. McCarthy, J. M. Whitsett, C. F. McElroy, of the N. N. C. Club.

(2) Asters, raised without hydrant water: First prize, the Archias Seed Company premium, \$5.00; second prize, the B. B. Allen Shoe Company premium, a pair of fine shoes, value \$3.00; third prize, the



MAIN STREET, CARTHAGE, 1911

Regan's Hall only building of the '70s now standing



SCENE AT STONE QUARRY, CARTHAGE



Christman Brothers premium, framed picture, \$2.00. Judges: Mesdames J. W. Miller, I. C. Hodson, Frank Harrison, of the Ianthe Vincent Chautauqua Circle.

(3) Petunias, raised with access to hydrant water: First prize, the Carthage National Bank premium, \$5.00; second prize, the Holbrook & Son premium, books to the value of \$3.00; third prize, the Jacob Schlect premium, \$2.00. Judges: Mesdames Geo. Porter, C. R. Sirkosky and R. F. Glenn, of the U. C. D. Club.

(4) Petunias, raised without hydrant water: First prize, the A. A. Ramsay premium, \$5.00; second prize, T. B. Tuttle premium, \$2.50; third prize, the Frank Edel premium, a bottle of perfume, value, \$2.00. Judges: Mesdames Sarah Turner, J. B. Toomay, George Brown, of the Stratford Shakespeare Society.

Foliage Plants—The beds were the same size as the flower beds and the plants consisted of a center of castor beans, surrounded by cannas and bordered with coleus.

(1) Foliage Bed, raised with access to hydrant water: First prize, the H. H. Harding premium, \$5.00; second prize, the C. A. Stewart premium, one dozen photographs, \$4.50; third prize, the Walter Harrington premium, a nice book, \$1.50. Judges: Mesdames Robt. Moore, E. O'Keefe, Byron Morgan, of the Monday Reading Club.

(2) Foliage Bed, raised without hydrant water: First prize, the Central National Bank premium, \$5.00; second prize, the Tom and Ed. Hall premium, shoes to the amount of \$3.50; third prize, the Howenstein & Calhoon premium, framed picture, \$2.00. Judges: Mesdames H. H. Harding, D. R. Goucher, A. M. Drake of the Shakespeare Club.

Vine Culture—The features that were considered by the judges of vines were, luxuriance of growth, artistic arrangement of planting and training upon verandas, outbuildings, fence posts, etc., or the successful screening of back yards and other unsightly objects.

(1) Vines, raised with access to hydrant water: First prize, the First National Bank premium, \$5.00; second prize, the VanHoose premium, one-half dozen photographs, \$2.50; third prize, the S. B. Griswold premium, \$2.00. Judges: Mesdames P. J. McNerney, C. B. Stickney, Rosine Crocker, of the Tourist Club.

(2) Vines, raised without hydrant water: First prize, the Bank of Carthage premium, \$5.00; second prize, the F. D. Porter premium, \$2.50; third prize, the H. P. Hall premium, a gold ring, \$2.00. Judges: Mesdames Frank Folger, H. L. Mosley and J. W. Gray, of the Up-to-Date Club.

Boy's Vegetable Garden—The garden occupied an area of two square rods and the judges will consider not only the care of the ground, practical and faithful attention to duty, but also the quantity and value and quality of the product.

(1) Vegetable Garden, raised with access to hydrant water: First prize, the *Carthage Evening Press* one year's subscription, \$5.00; also the W. C. Thomas premium, \$2.00.

Lawn Contest—(1) Yards having frontage of two hundred feet or more: \$10.00 in money or pieces of statuary or other ornaments of equal value; the Rocking Chair Club. Judges: T. B. Tuttle, J. D. Clarkson and James Spence.

(2) Yards having one hundred feet frontage and less than two hundred feet: \$8.00 in money or statuary as above; the Alpha Club. Judges: Miss Anna Taylor and Mrs. T. R. Payne.

(3) Yards having frontage of less than one hundred feet: \$6.00 in money or statuary as above; the Century Club. Judges: A. H. Langhead, Hoyt Gierhart and David King.

In addition to the above, \$100.00 was contributed by the citizens to be used for special prize contests, which could not be included in the above general classification, and some five hundred school children competed for some of the prizes.

#### ARBOR DAY, 1903

The Carthage schools had many times observed Arbor day, but never more enthusiastically than on April 12, 1903.

On account of the great interest taken in the prize contest for 1902 and the offerings for 1903, there was a great desire to beautify the school yards and in 1903 Hon. M. E. Benton, then the congressional representative of this district, sent to the Carthage schools from the United States botanical gardens at Washington, forty-five trees of various kinds, and these were planted by the pupils after the rendering of an appropriate program.

#### CARTHAGE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

We present here a list of the graduates of the Carthage High School, beginning with the first class in 1878. Carthage has every reason to be proud of her High School graduates, as we find among them the names of many men and women who have achieved success in the world, among them statesmen, who have filled prominent places in this and other states, and financiers who today are helping to mold the commercial destinies of the county. Many of them have attained great prominence in the teaching profession. Kansas City has many times, in the past twenty years, shown her confidence in the Carthage schools by drawing from her excellent corps of instructors to fill responsible places in the schools of that city. Twenty graduates of the Carthage schools have been thus honored by the Kansas City Board of Education.

In the annual literary contest at Yale College in 1900, a Carthage young man won first prize in the competition for the writing of the best original poem, Charles A. Kellogg, a former student of the Carthage schools, carrying off the high honor. Mr. Kellogg's style was easy and graceful, his diction pure and his thoughts were charmingly expressed.

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Class of 1878: Frank Pierce, Ed. C. Crow, Louie Brown, Eva I. McConnell, Florence C. Parkell, Nettie Beasley and Fannie West.

Class of 1879: Chas. J. Dickey, Ora M. Brummett, Nannie Dinsmore, Aura B. Speece and Ellen M. Chase.

Class of 1880: Olivia Seaman, Carrie Dittoe, Aaria Jenkins, Olive Dale, Carrie Farwell, Ella Harrison, Kate M. Allen and Belle Crandall.

Class of 1881: Edith Easton, Clara Hout, Emma Campbell, Sallie Pixlee, Abbie Speece, Anna Pool, Nellie Wakefield, Minnie Dinsmore.



HIGH SCHOOL, CARTHAGE

Maud Reid, Fannie Bliss, Beulah Pendleton, George Guinn, Thomas McCune, Joseph Roberts and Ben Brown.

Class of 1882: Anna White, Cora Fisher, Genevieve Rawson, Adele Stephenson, Margaret Loyd and Hal. Wardin.

Class of 1883: Hattie Reece, Etta C. Seawell, Kittie Platt, Jennie M. Bliss, Salome Stanton and Adele Van Natter.

Class of 1884: Cella Wilber, Bird Betts, Minnie Gates, Rosalie Squire, Ella Yancey, Ella Speer, Hattie McLees, Lena Harrison, Lida Clark and James Bridges.

Class of 1885: Ollie Thomas, Flora G. Riley, Mary Sheffield, Mabel Reid, Clara Keyes, Laura R. Jennison, Fannie Wells, Anna Gray, May Embree, Irene Cunningham, Mary Twitchell, Bessie Rose, Gussie E. Parke and Nettie Schooler.

Class of 1886: Effie Blair, Mattie Butler, Ella Bryan, Sallie Floyd, Ida Gray, Anna Hough, Ada Mitchell, May Murphy, Lizzie Pool, Walter Boyer, Ida Putnam, Lottie Putnam, Ida Rombauer, Myrta Steinmetz, Ina Turner, Lula Twitchell, Nellie E. Wilson, Loula Van Neman, Stella Hodshier and Mord Bogie.

Class of 1887: Susie Buchanan, Mensa Carlson, Walter Carver,



Mattie Coffin, Gertie Child, Alice De Vore, Lutie De Vore, Myrtle Fugitt, Edgar Irwin, Carrie Jennison, Lutie Lindsey, Bessie Mason, Ida Mix, Mabel Nanson, Lula O'Keefe, Ida Pensinger, Sidney Redding, Allie Rhoades, Hattie Smith, William Turner, Lewis Knight, Laura Laxon, Cora Tyree, Hattie Vermillion and Arthur Webster.

Class of 1888: Gertrude Burge, Pearl Colby, Helen Coe, Stella Fugitt, Ada Garland, Matie Gleason, Hester Gray, Frank Greenwood, Louis Heckathorn, Frank Hendrick, Grace Howenstein, Herbert Kellogg, Clara Riley, Ard Smith, George Whitsett, George Wheeler, and Guy Wells.

Class of 1889: Alice Bistline, Milcie Bartlett, Nellie Carlson, Jessie Catron, Darwin Clark, Daisy Dacey, Ed. Fugitt, Harry Fenner, Ed. Gray, Emma Green, Gertrude Green, Edga Hottel, Gus Hout, Carrie Jenks, Daisy Kellar, May King, Cora Lake, Bessie Leidy, Agnes McCarthy, Daisy Reid, Mattie Rombauer, Guy Smith, Inez Spence, Myrtle Thomas, Claude Warner, Nita Wittich, Georgia Wood, Frank Woodward and Anna Yancey.

Class of 1890: Nell Betts, William Boon, Lew Brown, Carl Bryan, Edith Kerr, May McGuire, Tessa McCarthy, Mary McCartey, Charles Byers, Ora Cupp, Nettie Franks, Frank Haines, Nannie Halcomb, Frank Harker, Jessie Harker, Fred Hodson, Mary Hoff, Alonzo Johnson, Cora Mayerhoff, Robert Ornduff, Nellie Potter, Mabel Putnam, Lydia Rader, Jennie Redding, Wilfrid Robbins, Nell Spence, Kate Vert, Nona Walworth and Cora Westerfield.

Class of 1891: Joshua Baker, Frank Ross, Edna Beard, Nellie Clark, Byrd Cunningham, Olive Folger, Edith Hampton, Edith Harker, Lula Hay, Bertha Leidy, Nellie McCartey, Dollie Waller, Dalco Botenfield, Roy Webster, Lucy Buchanan, Stella Colley, Maud Dresse, Emma Hanson, Lillie Hampton, Gertie Haughawout, Edna Kincaid, Byrd Morgan, Josie Wade and Jno. C. Brown.

Class of 1893: Frank Gleason, Chas. Knight, Frank Moore, Dell Rockhold, Fred Waters, Winnifred Bryan (a short time), Lee Cate, Fannie Gray, Minnie Havens, Nellie Jackson, Walter Gray, Carl Lehnard, John O'Keefe, Chas. Scafe, Perry Webster, Elsa Woodward, Laura Foland, Mabel Hamilton, Grace Hutcheson, Lizzie Peiffer, Mabel Riley, Lena Ross, Lora Rose and Emma Wallace.

Class of 1894: Clarence Baker, Leigh Hodges, Robt. Sloan, Alice Benedict, Orrena Crabtree, Lula Freed, Leta Gray, Nora Johnson, Mary Kiskaddon, Nora McCarthy, Emily Newell, Hattie Perry, Adda Sappington, Harry Blair, Benton Perry, Lillian Baker, Anna Berry, Lula Emry, Gertrude Fugitt, Maggie Hughes, Hattie Judd, Mollie Lake, Nell Mix, Hessie Ornduff, Gertrude Post, Anna Thompson and Ina Tuttle.

Class of 1895: Lucius Berthe, Frank Bishop, John C. Brown, Herman Bryan, Harry Clark, Arthur Coffin, Henry S. Cowgill, J. Delbert Davis, Martin Fry, Robert C. Grissom, Allen McReynolds, James P. Newell, Albert M. Wise, Charles P. Wood, Emily Valentine, Adah Turner, Mertie Smith, Serena Russum, Minnie L. Amsden, Nina Bartlett, Elva Benedict, Mabel Clack, Jessie M. Caffee, Carlotta E. Coulter,



Maud G. Cupp, Laura Dunn, Florence Fabyan (a short time), Pearl Galentine, Minnie B. Gladden, Bertha Harker, Marcia C. Johnstone, Lizzie McCormick, Jessie Miller, Georgia Radcliff, Georgia A. Rader and Anna Rathbun.

Class of 1896: Frank Coffin, Reuben Fugitt, Westley Halliburton, John W. McReynolds, Harry Smith, Thos. Boggess, Walter Arthur, Jas. Reid, Chas. Fry, May Atherton, Clara Benedict, Nellie Baynham, Linnie Baker, Viola Bistline, Clara Bliss, Bertha Clark, Lena Confrey, Stella Conard, Alta Cannon, Blanche Dale, Rosine Deutsch, Olive Fugitt, Edna Gladden, Melva Gladden, Melva Hughes, Mattie Hurst, Bessie Lundy, Nona Platt, Lizzie Russum, Hattie Sewall, Ollie Sleight, Lula Stanley, Mayme Viernow, Gertrude Wood, Clara McReynolds, Elizabeth Hill, Bessie Baker (a short time) and Mabel Cushman.

Class of 1897: Lida Aholtz, Carrie Barrett, Julia Clark, Myrtle Collier, Cara Fleck, Jessie Ground, Nina Hout, Emma Knell, Vena Monroe, Lila Oldham, Anna Smith, Amy Vinson, Allen Schooler, Bessie Baldwin, Sallie Boon, Iva Cook, Edna Freed, Alice Gladden, Sibyl Hodges, Pauline Kirke, Kate McCarthy, Maud Murdock, Mayme Reid, Grace Smith, Denzil Coe, Robert Smith and Nat Wright.

Class of 1898: Oscar Emerson, Grace Bush, Maud Dixon, Edna Emry, Bertha Green, Ethel Hobbs, Alta Jacobs, Daisy Kreider, Pearl Norris, Clara Pratt, Rena Prigmore, Winnifred Whitsett, Herbert Peiffer, May Bradford, Lora Eaker, Nellie Elliott, Bessie Hunt, Effie Hurst, Etta Jennison, Grace McCarthy, Anna Newell, Isabel Perkins, Mabel Wood and Alta Walker.

Class of 1899: Curtis Betts, Adelia Augusta Bradford, Francis Herbert Kilburn, Urling C. Coe, Elizabeth C. Coffeen, Josie Collier, Lloyd Cowgill, Leo Warner McNeerney, Clinton Daugherty, Margaret Edith Davis, Irene Francis Newland, Nellie Grace Porter, Mary Annette Probert, Nannie B. Rankin, Ina Blanche Fugitt, Wilbur G. Garlinger, Alta Catherine Smith, Garland Greever, Ethel A. Grove, Eva L. Grove, Effie Surrilda Sterrett, Gertrude Pearl Harker, Margaret Josephine Henley, Myrtle A. Jennison, Jeannette C. Kellogg, Verna Brinkley, Edna M. Kinman, Anna Daisy Kyle, Mable Byrde Lundy, Mae Magoffin, Carl F. Cupp, Ethel M. Mix, Emma Etta Myers, Orlena W. Elliot, John C. Emerson, Leslie B. Emry, Alfred Finke, Charles E. Russum, Maud V. Sappington, John J. Gauss, Ada Z. Stanley, Fannie J. Stebbins, Ruth Stebbins, Dorothy Hampton, Hirrel Stevens, Hettie Symons, Edward Elmer Tappenden, Alice E. Hough, Jessie Pearl Houston, Edith Ivey, Mary L. Jackson, Nellie V. Henry, M. Gertrude Terry, Kate Twitchell, Ida May Wetherell and Bessie Viola Wilson.

Class of 1900: Georgina Adams, Clara M. Bistline, Mattie Frances Black, Eva Bowen, Addie Burr, Maude A. Clark (a short time), Cecil I. Cragin, Leona I. Dodwell, Byrde V. Elliott, Mabel L. Essley, Thaddeus R. Givens, John W. Gray, Edyth W. Harrison (a year), Minnie M. Hiatt, Beulah A. Hill, Alma Bertha Hornish, Charles Ned Houck, Clara Huntly, M. Grace Jennison, Anna Thressa Johnson, Clara L. Kesweter, Edna Kuhn, Fannie Mertins, John Carroll Miles, Jennie Perry, Nellie

Katherine Quinn, James Edwin Ray, Mary G. St. John, H. Elizabeth Schooler, George Harold Schooler, Albert Hugh Smith, Laura B. Tullis, Nora E. Weeks, Mary J. White, Cynthia M. Yancy and Jenness T. Wallace.

Class of 1901: Myra Amsden, Hamden C. Armstrong, Nella Baker, Blanche Bartlett, Katharine Olive Betts, Anna E. Bradford, Tress Brinkley, Jesse Leigh Burton, Flora Claire Caffee (a year), Earl Clark, Clara Cecil Coffeein, Gertrude Irene Driesback, Rosa Ledbetter, Nellie McCormick, Cecil McNeerney, Helen Brayton Miller, Coila Von Trout Myers, Ruby Hazelton Norris, Gertrude Pensinger, Mattie Bettie Piercy, Mabel Jane Platt, Fannie Price, Bessie Putnam, Harry A. Pyle, Robt. J. Eads, Edith Ione Elliott, Walter B. Galentine, Lizzie Gilbreath, Una Hankla, T. Bond Haughawout, Jr., Eleanor Henley, Neva Houck, Lillian M. Jackson, Susie Kilbourn, Lulu Isabelle Kilgore, Florence Burr Knepper, Grace Koontz, Ben D. Reynolds, M. Lena Riddle, Mollie Frances Roberts, Cora Lee Shanks, Nannie Snell, Bertha Spencer, Hattie Stemmons, Effie D. Stephens, Anna Laura Wetherell, Alice Emily Wetherell, Olive Williams, Ethel Whitney (a year) and Wm. W. Wright.

Class of 1902: M. Florence Anderson, Ethel Edith Barratt, Bernice Bell, Herbert F. Benedict, Beulah Benton Besse, Berdie May Bradbury, Cora Bradfield, Edith L. Brinkerhoff, Guyon O. Carns, May Clarkson, Pansy B. Clifton, Montelle G. Coe, M. Edna Cooper, Ethel Leah Cupp, Irene A. Cushman, Alice Doran, Lulu Ehlers, Murray Burke Elliott, Charles I. Elting, Pearl Odessa Emerson, Mayme E. Emery, George B. Fugitt, Jennie Goldstein, Audrey A. Hale, Nell H. Hamilton, Helen Marie Hedrick, Katherine Henley, Zoe M. Hiatt, Mary Hille, Jessie Z. Johnson, Nell Tresseder Lanyon, Fannie L. Magill, Hattie McCarthy, Louise McCarthy, Bernice Neale McNerny, Wallace W. McWilliams, Julia Newell, Frances M. Pinney, Janie Rogers, Elba Seymour, Grace P. Shelton, Mae Smith, Lydia Weil, May Wheeler, Essie Williams and Bertha May Zeigler.

Class of 1903: Jennie Adams, Gertrude Armitage, Etta Burch, Olive Boland, Walter Bailey, Daisy Bradbury, Laura Clark, Faye Corwin, Pearl Cupp, Pearl Coffinbury, Ada Dexter, Ethel Eaker, Harry Elliott, Anna Farrar, Edna Givens, Marian Glenn, Lillian Gould, Pearl Hampton, Eunice Knepper, Raymond McCoy, Jean McClurg, Susie McCoy, Bertha Mooneyham, John Pickett, Eunice Platt, Carlyle Pratt, Victor Russum, Edith Scott, Sallie Schooler, Virginia Sayler, Faye Smith, Rosa Strauss, Earl Sterritt, Savannah Stith, Jessie Stemmons, Josie Stuckey, Edgar Vance, Lulu Vaughn, Harry Waters, Bettie Wetherell, Clyde Whitlock and Louis Winkler.

Class of 1904: Nellie Ayre, Olive Black, Edith Black, Ennis Bratton, Harvey Castor, Mary Campbell, Nina Confer, Belle Davison, Marguerite Dinsmore, Irwin French, Harvey Cobel, Beatrice Griffith, Myrtle Hawthorth, Mamie Haines, Mabel Hefley, Marguerite Hille, Walter Hough, Ruby Jennison, Ella Johnson, Neva Kitching, May Lanyon, Myra Moore, Roy Morrow, Alice Norton, Jess Payne, Ethel Pickett, Mary Schooler, Lucille Snyder, Orie Snyder, Walter Stemmons, Harvey Stevenson,

Elizabeth Stone, Adele Wallace, Glenn Whitlock, Helen White and Mabel Young.

Class of 1905: Minnie Ale, Estelle Bartlett, Ida Beattie, Bessie Breeze, Ethel Brock, Gladys Campbell, Florence Campbell, Pearl Cramer, Frances Cushman, Leona Deemer, Raymond Dennis, Ethel Faskin, Irma Gilmore, Jenny Grigg, Phillip Hardman, Mabel Higgon, Claude Huntley, Myrtle Irwin, Eula Jennison, Dwight Kellogg, Frances Lane, Ella McLees, Hazel Messenger, Ethel Orr, Florence Russum, Imogene Slade, Herman Thym, Bert Waters, Dwight Wetherell, Ruth Whitney, Don Williams, Frossard Wilson, Kitty Wolf and Lena White.

Class of 1906: Mills Anderson, Ira Buergey, Carl Barnes, Fanny Baker, Inez Benedict, Ruth Clark, Fred Clark, Hattie Davison, Esther Dreisbach, Faye Emory, Minnie Ferguson, Carrie Heathcoat, Bertha Harbison, Esther Hinkle, Agnes Hines, May Hussey, Mayde Jay, Louis Keepers, Raymond Leggett, Don McCubbin, Edgar Maxwell, Matilda McGownd, Evah Spencer, Lorraine St. John, Kate Smith and Frank Williams.

Class of 1907: Raymond Baker, Libbie Barcroft, Floyd Birkhead, Ray Benna, Cora Fisher, Gladys Calloway, Russell Custis, Earl Confer, Herman Cohen, Helen Connelly, Lucille Chapman, John Carter, Walter Clemmens, Norine Forsythe, Carroll Faust, Fred Geisert, Nelle Griggs, Robert Hodson, Lua Holiday, Maud Hiatt, Pearl Hockett, Jennie Jackson, Edith Jay, Roy Legg, Irwin Miles, Myrtle Mason, Jessie Magers, Harry Milton, Helen McGregor, Ada McReynolds, Annie O'Bannon, Rose Oratt, Pearl Pickett, Ida Smith, Effie Smith, Charles Stemmons, Walter Stickney, Addie Schooler, Dell Shell, Marva Thompson, Merrill Stuckey, Emma Whitfield, Amelia Wetherell, Regina Weil and Eural Wilbur.

Class of 1908: Etta Allison, Ralph Besse, Pearl Boland, Lorenia Briggie, Wylie Bromley, Gordon Butte, George Cochran, Orla Confer, Lewis Davison, Pearl Ehlers, Mabel Elliott, Clarence Griffith, John Halliburton, Sidney Hardaway, Rebekah Harris, Cecil Hayes, Maud Hayes, Martha Johnson, Sylvia Judd, Helen Lang, Delia Langston, Elizabeth Lyendecker, Grace McGregor, Emma Miller, Genevieve Moses, Ethel Norton, Eugenia Patton, Fay Pfifer, Bessie Platt, Cora Potter, Myrtle Ozias, Romaine Roach, Ward Schrantz, Vaneta Shuler, Effie Smith, Eugene Steinmetz, Herbert Turner and Henry Viser.

Class of 1909: Rex Ashbrook, Ross Burt, Loneta Bigger, May Brown, Merrill Blair, Cora Hendrick, Bernice Henley, Mary Hunt, Jeanette Ingraham, Wesley Johnson, Irma Keepers, Irma Kelley, Hazel Griffith, Blanche McNerney, Bertie Moore, Eva McCullom, W. T. Morrow, Lee Platt, Elizabeth Pritchard, Pauline Roach, James Rider, Ruth Stemmons, Allan Stemmons, Lawrence Smith, Edith Sayler, Hazel Saulisbury, Rosina Smith, Ruth Thomas, George Taaffe and Bertha Woodside.

Class of 1910: Hazel Allen, Edith Barnes, Frank Birkhead, Hazel Bowsher, Bertha Brown, Vincil Burriss, Mary Burt, Anna Campbell, Cleo Comer, Helen Cornell, Ada Covert, Ruth Faust, Clela Finch,



Nelle Fitzer, Chris Geisert, Nicholas Geisert, Edsil Gordon, Laurence Gray, Fay Grimm, Ethel Gunter, Louise Halliburton, Ethel Harris, Helen Harrison, Faye Head, Joe Johnston, Oscar Lehman, Carl Luscombe, Harold Mattenlee, Esther McCaughtry, Helen McReynolds, Roscoe Miles, Jeffries Miller, Samuel Norton, Ida Prickett, Amy Porter, Marion Shannon, Genevieve Slade, Will Stagg, Harry Steele, Lula Swartz, Carl Tucker, Mignonette Uhl, Leslie von Grep and Herbert Wolcott.

Class of 1911: Olive McNerney, Myrtle Dennis, Roy Coplen, Ernestine Jacobs, Lucille Moore, Clay Boswell, George Brown, Harriet Brown, Ria Buntin, Lacie Caffee, Geneva Campbell, Wallace Campbell, Josephite Casavan, Lois Chamberlain, Emil Cohen, Claude Crotzburg, Arthur Custis, Mary Daugherty, May Dean, Walter Delp, Fern Dresbach, Ben Geisert, Naum Gibbel, Ruth Goldstein, Helen Gould, Grace Guild, Melsin Hall, Ethel Hancock, Gladys Hewitt, Dailey Hill, Edna Hockett, Irvin House, Lucille Jenks, Clell Johnson, Ellen Johnson, Florence Kenaston, Merritt Ketcham, Helen Leggett, Geneva Moore, Agnes Moses, Josie Motley, Veva Nichols, Orlin Pyle, Harry Rollins, Katy Schrantz, Julia Stickney, Margaret Tralle, Bessie Tribe, Chester Vance, Anna Walz, Olga Weil, Winifred Wetherell, Fanny Wild, Jakie Wild and Lena Winkler.

#### THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

As mentioned in a previous article, a library was organized in Carthage during the seventies and was greatly used by the early citizens of the county seat. The splendid school system, the many literary societies, and the general air of culture which has always pervaded Carthage, were the natural outgrowth of the literary tastes of the men and women who in its early day gave it the well deserved name of "the Queen City."

Early in the last decade the club women of Carthage—and their influence, like that of Caesar's, equalled a legion's,—began to agitate the matter of building and maintaining a free public library. The matter was put in form by a largely signed petition to the City Council, asking that the proposition of voting a tax for library purposes be submitted to the people. The matter was submitted to the voters in the spring of 1902 and the vote on the proposition was an overwhelming majority for the public library; 837 votes were cast in favor of the library tax and only 94 against it.

Andrew Carnegie, the great steel king, who has done so much for the libraries of the county, donated \$25,000 toward the construction of the building. The following gentlemen were appointed by the mayor as the first Library Board, and they supervised the building of the library, which is most complete in its equipment, and selected the list of books and periodicals which were placed in it: President, W. K. Caffee; vice president, W. L. Calhoun; secretary, A. F. Lewis; and W. S. Crane.



C. O. Harrington, E. O. Keefe, W. R. Logan, Samuel McReynolds and P. Davey. The library was completed and opened to the public in 1904.

In order that the reader may form an idea of the popularity of this great institution and the extent that it is used by the people of Carthage, we cite the following extracts from the report of the librarian for 1910:

Books donated by citizens of Carthage.....	252
Books donated by United States government; reports, scientific works, etc. ....	368
Books purchased .....	620
Number of books in library, December 31, 1910.....	6,819
Number of people using the library .....	4,235
Total circulation for the year .....	30,850



LIBRARY, CARTHAGE

The Carthage library works in harmony with the public school system and, in addition to the above, furnished to the public schools a well-selected list of reference books, especially suited to child study, which have been in the hands of the teachers for use of the pupils of the school.

#### EASTERN STAR AND ITS SILVER ANNIVERSARY

On December 12, 1900, Eminence Chapter, No. 93, Order of the Eastern Star, celebrated the twenty-fifth year of its existence with an appropriate celebration. December 12th was not the exact twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of this lodge, but was chosen as a more appropriate time for the celebration because it was at the close of the year, and terminated a most successful year of lodge work and influence.

The exercises of the evening were concluded with a banquet which was presided over by the worshipful matron, Mrs. C. T. Stevens, who,

on taking the seat as toast master, at the head of the table, made a most pleasing address and bid all around the festal board a hearty welcome.

The following toasts were responded to: "Our Helpmates," Justice Woodward; "The Eastern Star Goat," Mrs. Craig; "The Relation of the Eastern Star to Masonry," Rev. Daniel King; "The Ladies in General," W. B. Saylor; "Men in General," Mrs. Mary Flower; "Our Guests," Mrs. Elreed.

Mrs. Flower's address was both witty and spicy, and was punctuated with shouts of laughter, and round after round of applause. Concluding Mrs. Flower said: "Here's to men, they fill our hearts, they pay our dues and come to our banquets!" The responses of both Mrs. Craig on the "Lodge Goat" and Mrs. Elreed on "Our Guests" were also well received, each handling her subject in a manner which showed the speaker well chosen for the subject.

#### THE M. W. A. LOG ROLLING

The Inter State Log Rolling Association held its annual log rolling in Carthage, September 9, 1902, and was well attended, although the opening of the state Democratic campaign at Joplin drew some from the attendance. Hon. John Sullivan, of Kansas City, was the orator of the day and delivered a masterful address covering the various phases of fraternal insurance.

In the competitive drills, four camp teams entered for competition for the state prize (Class A), and the foresters of Kansas City Camp, No. 2002, carried off the money, \$150. In Class B, open to drill teams not having previously won a state prize, Springfield carried off the prize, \$100.

#### KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

At the session of the Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, in October, 1900, for the purpose of bringing the lodges closer in touch with each other and thereby creating a warmer feeling among the members of this great fraternity the state was divided into sixteen Pythian districts, and the members of the order were asked to organize Pythian district associations. Jasper county was placed in the twelfth district and, on account of its having so large a Pythian population, it was looked upon as the center of activity. Fraternal Lodge, No. 14, of Carthage, the mother lodge in southwest Missouri, took the initiative in the matter and invited the several lodges to send representatives to Carthage on February 22, 1901, and assist in the formation of a district assembly. Two hundred Knights from all over southwest Missouri accepted the invitation and met with the Carthage Pythians on the natal day and were most royally entertained.

After the regular session of Fraternal Lodge No. 14, the Twelfth Pythian District Association was organized, with M. Mehan, of Carthage, as president. After the formal organization, the members of

Fraternal Lodge, with the delegates, marched to the Harrington Hotel where a banquet was served, Grand Chancellor E. I. Morse, of Excelsior Springs, being the guest of honor.

After the spread the following toasts were responded to: "Friendship," Hon. E. I. Morse, grand chancellor; "My Ideas of Pythianism," John H. Holmes, grand keeper of record and seals; "Sociability," J. H. Cook; "What We Get out of Lodge Attendance," John H. Flannigan.

At the meeting of the District Association of Joplin, 1904, Fraternal Lodge No. 14 won the loving cup for having given the best rendition of the amplified third rank, winning from five competitors. The members of the team in this contest were J. H. Bailey, H. Miller, Dr. J. M. Mantenlee, Silas Jackson, Gus Hout, Otto Rotsch, John Blakeney, G. W. Asendorf, H. L. Shannon and P. M. Stewart. At the date of this writing Fraternal Lodge is in a most flourishing condition, having a membership of over 200.

#### THE CHAUTAUQUA

In 1902 R. F. Stickney became president of the Interstate Chautauqua Assembly and Harry G. Fitzer, a man of great energy, was appointed secretary. These two men lent their energy to the making of a successful Chautauqua and succeeded far beyond their expectations.

A new and more convenient location was secured just south of the Missouri Pacific Railway depot and a more commodious building was constructed containing an auditorium capable of holding 4,000 people.

The auditorium was dedicated by a monster rally of the young people's Christian societies of the county, including the Y. P. S. C. E., the Epworth League, Young People's Baptists Union, Y. W. C. T. U. and Y. M. C. A.

The 1902 Chautauqua was a success, both financially and in a literary way, some of the best talent on the lecture platform appearing before the great audiences which greeted them. The average attendance at the day lectures and concerts was 1,600, and the average night attendance, 2,000.

The Chautauqua Assembly hall became a popular rallying place for great gatherings and was the meeting place of both of the county nominating conventions. The Carthage Chautauquan wielded a great influence in the county all during the decade.

#### CARTHAGE ENTERTAINS THE MISSOURI STATE BANKERS' ASSOCIATION

On May 10, 1900, the Missouri State Bankers Association met in Carthage and that city again sustained its reputation as a convention city.

Major H. H. Harding, one of the pioneer citizens who, during a long and active business and professional life, had maintained a most enviable reputation for business integrity, was appointed by the citizens' committee as its spokesman to bid the guardians of the people's wealth a welcome, and in a few well chosen words put every one in good

humor and made the financiers feel perfectly at home. After the morning business session the people of Carthage chartered six special cars on the Interurban Electric Railway and took the distinguished visitors on a sight-seeing tour over the country, and in the evening served to them a sumptuous banquet at Armory Hall, after which many entertaining after-dinner speeches were made.

This convention was of great benefit to the county, as it gave to the financiers of the state a correct idea of Jasper county's wealth and importance, and as a direct result of this meeting a considerable outside capital sought investment in the various industries of the county.

#### COMPANY A, SECOND REGIMENT, N. G. M.

In 1901 Captain John Bailey resigned the command as captain of the Carthage Light Guard and Lieutenant Ed Hiatt was promoted to the captaincy. Captain Hiatt proved a very efficient commander and excepting during two years, when he was out of the state service, has been in command of the company ever since. Company A, as in the past, has been composed of the best young men of Carthage, and its decorum, camp discipline and military manoeuvring have reflected great credit on the county.

In 1910 Wesley Hallibarton, who had served through several official grades in the Light Guard, was elected major in the Second Regiment, and he filled the position with credit to himself and honor to his old company.

#### THE KNELL FAIR

In 1901 E. Knell established at his private driving park a fair and exposition which during the last ten years has been a very great factor in advertising Jasper county and her resources, as well as furnishing the occasion for the bringing together at a racing meet the best horses for miles around. In 1902 the association was incorporated. To give an idea of the popularity of Knell's big fair, we point to the fact that in 1903 28,500 people passed through the gates of the big horse show and the attendance has been larger each succeeding year. A more extended mention of the Knell Fair is made in the biography of its founder which appears elsewhere.



## CHAPTER XLVIII

### WEBB CITY AND CARTERVILLE

POLITICAL HISTORY DURING THE LAST DECADE—THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM—THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING—PUBLIC SCHOOLS' TEACHING STAFF—CHURCH EDIFICES AND CHURCH WORK—JANE CHINN HOSPITAL—SALVATION ARMY HOSPITAL—THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—THE ODD FELLOWS—FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN 1904—WEBB CITY CENTENARIAN—A REMINISCENCE PARTY—COMPANY —, SECOND REGIMENT, N. G. M.—NEWSPAPERS OF WEBB CITY—THE "CARTERVILLE RECORD."

The past decade has wrought a great change in Webb City. It has been a most decided era of progress and advancement, not only in a business way but along social, fraternal, religious and educational lines. Many of the old buildings which were erected in the pioneer period were torn down and replaced by modern brick and stone structures. A sewer system was built and many miles of streets macadamized or paved. The "go-ahead" spirit was very much in evidence, especially during the administrations of two of its mayors, who introduced many new and up-to-date changes in the policy of local administration.

The city has been fortunate in having for its officers, almost without exception, men who had the interests of the city at heart, and the wisdom of their acts is attested by the contrast in the appearance of Webb City now and in its earlier day. Below is a list of the city officers who have served the people of Webb City during the past eleven years.

#### POLITICAL HISTORY DURING THE LAST DECADE

1900: Mayor, S. T. Clark; marshal, A. Bisher; treasurer, Roy Gale; collector, W. E. Reed; assessor, C. S. Spencer; police judge, W. G. Bolen; councilmen—G. P. Ashcraft, I. C. Hess, H. Eckert and E. A. Potts, and the hold-over members elected in 1899. With this administration L. O. Walker, the present city clerk, was inducted into office.

At the spring election in 1901 the following gentlemen were elected to the council: Charles Clark, I. C. Hess, Joe West, E. M. Shafer and T. L. Covert.

1902: Mayor, D. F. Wertz; marshal, L. S. Rich; police judge, Bert Johnson; city attorney, W. J. Owen; collector, Ed Chitwood; treasurer, T. F. Saxton; assessor, W. L. Kelly; councilmen—George W. Moore, B. C. Aylor, P. J. M. Keene and O. T. Arnold.

In August, 1903, while quelling a disturbance, Mr. Rich, the marshal, was killed by an unknown party and H. E. Marquer filled out the unexpired term.

1904: Mayor, G. W. Moore; marshal, R. T. Montjoy; police judge, Bert Johnson; city attorney, G. M. Pritchett; collector, Claude Watson; treasurer, T. F. Saxton; assessor, ———— Spencer; councilmen—R. M. Gale, W. T. Gill, H. S. Strobe, Ed Howe and O. T. Arnold, with the hold-over members of 1903.

At the spring election of 1905, the following gentlemen came into the council: John C. Veach, E. E. Spracklin, J. W. Witte, John W. Morse and W. H. Wiggins.

1906: Mayor, G. W. Moore; marshal, R. S. Moore; police judge, D. H. Mock; city attorney, George V. Farris; collector, Bert Johnson; treasurer, F. F. Saxton; assessor, S. S. Spencer; councilmen—J. A. Hardy, W. T. Gill, P. J. McIntee, James Williams and R. O. Childers, together with the hold-over members elected in 1905.

At the spring election in 1907 the following gentlemen came into the council: T. J. Ball, Temple Chapman, F. H. Nesbitt, Charles Smith, George Sutherland and W. O. Mills.

1908: Mayor, Patrick McEntee; marshal, J. H. McNeil; treasurer, C. R. Chinn; assessor, C. P. Galliene; police judge, D. H. Mock; attorney, G. M. Pritchett; collector, Bert Johnson; councilmen—H. L. Rose, Robert Toutz, S. B. Stephenson, Jos. Williams, O. T. Arnold, F. H. Danglade, and hold-over members. Mr. Rose moved from the city before the expiration of his term and A. A. Hulett was elected to fill the vacancy.

At the election of 1909 the following gentlemen were sent to the council: R. L. Martin, W. T. Gill, George Haysler, J. W. Wescott and Richard Jenkins.

1910: Mayor, W. V. K. Spencer; marshal, J. W. Harrison; city attorney, S. W. Bates; police judge, Art Redding; collector, Bert Johnson; treasurer, C. R. Chinn; assessor, C. P. Galliene; councilmen—D. F. Wertz, Claude Raymond, W. H. Scott, Arthur Rose, John H. Etter, F. H. Danglade and hold-over members.

At the spring election in 1911 the following gentlemen were returned to the council: George R. Mosley, Henry Wonner, J. H. Barrgesser, A. E. Mechie, J. H. Klenfeller and N. S. Slaughter.

On February 1, 1910, the citizens of Webb City voted on local option and after a hard-fought battle went dry by a majority of 67. A heavy vote was polled, the count resulting: for the sale of liquor, 1,195; against, 2,262; thrown out, 49; total vote cast, 3,506.

The appointive officers in Webb City for 1911 are as follows: City clerk, L. O. Walker; city engineer and street commissioner, A. J. McKinzie; fire chief, Chas. Evans. The salaries of the several offices are as follows: Mayor, \$250 per annum; marshal, \$50 per month and fees;

police judge and city attorney, the same; assessor, \$300 per annum; collector, fees; treasurer, \$200 per annum; councilmen, \$1.00 per session and \$2.00 per day for committee work; city clerk, \$90 per month; engineer, \$150 per month, and fire chief, \$75 per month.

#### THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

In 1902 Superintendent Young accepted a position in the St. Louis schools and Prof. T. E. Gray was elected to succeed him.

Superintendent Gray was a strong educator and his administration was marked by two distinguishing features—great interest manifest in the grade teachers' meetings and especial attention given to oratorical and voice culture. In 1903 the Board of Education offered two gold medals for proficiency in oratory and declamation—one for the best boy and one for the best young lady student, and this greatly stimulated the cultivation of expression and thought.

In 1904 Superintendent Gray was succeeded by J. W. Storms, principal of the High school, and he added to the high school course of study and was the suggestor of the Inter High School contests which have since been annually participated in by Carthage, Webb City and Joplin.

#### WEBB CITY HIGH SCHOOL

Supt. R. S. Nichols came to the Webb City schools in 1905. Professor Nichols' strong work has raised the High school standard until today it equals any in the state and the magnificent high school just completed speaks volumes for the educational spirit of Webb City.

The following are the graduates of the last decade:

1900: Ed Lane, Otto Veach, Celia Darling, Anna Richardson, Truman Burr, Clara Rolle, Mary Chambers, Nellie Kerr, Gertie McCafferty, Georgia Farris, Trella Thomas, Minnie Turridge and Emma Robinson.

1901: Elsie Springs, Maude Clary, Pearl Hitchcock, John Abbott, Latta Stewart, Lillian Edgar, Etta Harrison, Myrtle Marks, John Tewel, Alice Certain, Pearl Hobart and Don Gunsenhouser.

1902: Grace Ball, Brooks Cox, Robert Flournoy, Perry Hilyard, Grace Leonard, Don Mallory, Justin Noles, Mabel Rolla, Mamie Stinnett, Orson Bradford, Viola Davis, Pearl Ford, Lottie Kerr, Wallace Luesba, Rosine Morris, Harry Richards, Jessie Schooler, Rosine Symonds and Homer Woodward.

1903: William E. Sullens, Robert F. Stewart, Carrie E. Vinson, Ida M. Avery, Lalah V. Brasuer, Bessie M. Thomas, Ethel Tholborn, Maude Miller, Jos. E. Wommach, Ora M. Shelton, Kate V. Moran, Ben Raymond, Lucy G. Bruen, Emma V. Flourney, Blanche Hendrickson.

1904: Oscar Aldrich, Neva Britton, Ed Barlow, Elizabeth Farnham, Orphie Decker, Tillie Goldstein, Allen Jones, Ed McEntie, Zelph. Short, Cora Martin, Florence Sevey, Homer Wills.

1905: Lelia Bruce, Blanche Leonard, Ralph Morton, Ralph Thompson, Nora Crane, Carl Johnson, Henry Robinson and Clarence Wampler.

Class of 1906: Abigail Morton, Leila Smith, Nelle Hardesty, Louella Mountjoy, Mattie McNeill, Callie Purkhiser, Ula Roney, Mae Wiley, Kathryn Osborne, William Hall, Robert Glenn, Mary Fahrman. Leila McColloch, Maude Crane, Lillian Glaser, James Hegwood, Edward Stevens, Claude Crane, Ethel Bailey, Mrs. Pearl Herrod, Eulah Smith, Carl Jones, Isadore Ells, Edith Pool, Amla Ashcraft, Anne O. Wings.

Class of 1907: Florence Morrow Manker, Mary Burris, Linn McBride, Vida Julian, Eva Erwin, Estella McCafferty, Mabel Crawford, Edwin Stevison, Gladys Warthen, Nannie Oxendine, Bessie Wells, Bessie Oxendine, Rufus Lane, Nettie Marvin, Stella Johnson, Georgia Richardson, Anna Helm, Homer Hodson, Eldora Haughawaut, Ethel Watson, Bessie Ward, Ethel Fly, Orland Inman, Florence Helm, Zoe Thralls, Leta Morris, Mary Marshall, Clarence Vinson, Nellie Haughawaut, Anna Ruth Coil.

Class of 1908: Luella Moran, Bessie Moran, J. Edgar Stewart, Anne Stewart, Ethel Ball, C. Roy Jaccard, Glenna Warthen, Mabel Morrison, J. Albert Chenoweth, Ruby Allen, Ethel Nelson, Jessie Clark, Lelah Roberson, Gladys Cook, Marguerite Robertson, Hazel Barson, Lucy Underwood, Marguerite Manker, Lura Decatur, Guy Noel, Marie Clark, Argie Hanna, Glenn Hodson, Alma Steele, Madge Gaston, Tracy Roberson, Olive Kayes, Christine McBride.

Class of 1909: Cecil Jones, Ralph Taylor, Earl Bonsteel, Queen Bishko, Martha Jenkins, Claude Ratliff, Henry Satterlee, Hazel Hare, Ermina Ells, Roy Purkhiser, Lloy Hammell, Winifred Rierson, Reginald Bonsteel, Lula Varner, Helen Herrod, Elmer Stevison, Tom Parker, Ruth Clark, Grace Wigginton, Henrietta Clark, Ethel Tucker, Roy Teel, Bernice Eckert, Ruth Triplett, Lucy Peart, Odessa Kessler, Orie Ines, Sylvia Flourney, Addie Robison, Lillian Wilbur, Myrtle Hopkins, Clarence Lively, Mary Leggitt, Pearl Craig, Lillian Bailey, Marguerite Alexander, Bessie Buckeridge, Mary Loehr, Edna Barlow.

Class of 1910: Forest Chambers, Edna Busch, Roy Whitescarver, Roy Mountjoy, Ivah McNeill, Maude Hawout, Lucia Cornett, Clara-belle Threlkeld, Tearl Davis, Aubrey Tyree, — Burch, Mattie Canterbury, Archie Glenn, James Henson, May Aldridge, Gladys Clayton, Bertha Brewer, Richard Herrod, Louise Burns, Katherine Gorman, Bill Ellis, Howard Claypool, Edna Frankenberger, Warren Shayler, Trincie Gregg, Mary Neville, Wayne Steritt, Edith Inman, Elsie Ayer, Ray Watson, Ethel Freeman, Clara Everett, Stanley Nelson, Cleo Slatlen, Dan Lundeen, Gladys Pyatt, Margaret Ashcraft, Bland Pugh, Lulu Templeton, Alton Jones, Adele Darsham, Jeannette Rose, Sam Jenkins, Adah Daniels.

Class of 1911: Edith Hill, Olive Gilberth, Ruth Ines, Jim Carl, Mabel Thralls, Harold Arburthnot, Lillian Herrod, Charles Bacon, Ethel Robertson, Charles O'Neill, June Graig, Roy Coyne, Bessie Hilburn, Willet Warne, Earnestine Loomis, Patrick Carney, Audery Hudson, Leonard Purkhiser, Mable Rooley, Julius Galliène, Ester Vinson, Harold Blair, Molly Walton, Myrtle Fitzgerald, Madge Woodard, Frankie Atterabury, Helen Bucheridge, Norval Graig, Lucy Covert.



Leona Bradford, Roy Latham, Hope Nesbitt, John Inman, Ruth Blankenship, Carl Thomas, Ethel Hopkins, Guy Bennett, Hazel Havens, Carol Berrian, Marion Hammel, Fay Barson, Grace Wommack, Lewis Decatur, Fern Lewis, Adele Turner, Will Robertson, Viola Rice, Clara Wright, Roy Drak, Ralph Keane.

#### THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING

In 1911 Webb City completed a magnificent new High school building—one which reflects credit not only upon Webb City, but all Jasper county, and speaks volumes for the refinement and educational character of the place. This new up-to-date and modernly equipped building cost \$90,000. It is patterned after Westport High school, of Kansas City, and is thoroughly up-to-date. The building itself consists of three stories and basement, and rises to a height of 55 feet above the grade line.

“To have obtained a site sufficiently large in the heart of the city to allow of adequate recreation grounds would have been almost impossible without spending too much money on the site, at the expense of leaving enough from the \$90,000 bond issue to meet essential expenditure on the building itself. But the lack of outdoor recreation in the vicinity of the school building is more than compensated in the gymnasium, which occupies a large section of the ground floor, has dimensions of 72 by 45 feet, has ample height from floor to ceiling, and a seating capacity of not far from four hundred. It will furnish at all times a splendid opportunity for every line of healthful exercise such as pupils of high school age will desire to follow.

“Other rooms on the ground floor—one of them 23 by 26 feet and the other 21 by 28 feet—will be occupied by the classes for domestic science; two other rooms of similar capacity are designed for the manual training classes; and besides there are two large class rooms, 26 by 34 feet, available for other lines of study. Toilet rooms are located at both ends of the building, and shower baths are provided for the use of pupils using the gymnasium.

“The floor above includes office for the superintendent, with vaults for the care of school records, reception room, teachers’ rest room and office for high school principal, with private toilet rooms for this suite of rooms. On the same floor also is the study hall, with seating for 150 pupils, and library adjoining, so arranged that the teacher in charge will have the entire room and library in full view. Eight standard-size class rooms, four of them 26 by 23 and four 21 by 23, with toilet rooms at both ends of the hallway, and lockers for wraps, are also provided on this floor.

“The auditorium, which will provide seating accommodation for one thousand persons, occupies a large space on the upper floor. It will have a stage measuring 32 by 25 feet, with dressing rooms adjoining. The auditorium will be approached by wide stairways, affording ample means of exit.

"The floors throughout are of hard maple, thoroughly deadened, and the interior is of oak finish throughout. Every possible modern appliance for ventilation by air ducts has been brought into requisition, and the heating arrangements are guaranteed to keep the rooms within two degrees of the same temperature at all times in conformity with the needs of each season of the year.

"1911 marked the completion of a decade of remarkable progress in educational matters, the schools of the city having made a splendid advance in all the essentials of an up-to-date public school system.

"It will be evident that this is no exaggeration, but a statement of actual fact, when it is remembered:

"That the increase in number of teachers employed has been very far in excess of the increase in population, fifty-seven teachers being now employed as compared with thirty in 1900, while the number of inhabitants, as shown by the census returns of 1900 and 1910, was from 9,201 to 11,817.

"That this increase of teachers has been followed by correspondingly increased efficiency, the standing of Webb City high school in its relation to the state university having advanced from 16 points in the early '90s to 22 points at the present time.

"That, with the increase of faculty, there have also been large additions to the school accommodations, by the erection and subsequent enlargement of the Eugene Field building, now consisting of nine rooms, and the adding of four rooms to the Franklin building, four rooms to the West Side building, two rooms to the Webster building, and three rooms in the basement to the Central building.

"That a constant increase, year by year, in the school enrolment has shown the more general appreciation of educational privileges by both parents and children, while an attendance of over three hundred pupils at the high school, twice the number of ten years ago, affords most gratifying proof that the benefits of the more advanced courses are being enjoyed and appreciated by a much larger proportion of the grade pupils than was the case in former years.

"Recalling these facts affords ample demonstration that the increased popularity, efficiency and usefulness of the public schools have fully justified the constant desire and efforts of both faculty and the successive boards of directors to provide the pupils with the better accommodations that have been so much needed during all the years of the period referred to. For the good work that has been done has all the time been accomplished under a disadvantage of crowded recitation rooms and a compulsory mingling of grades such as might well have precluded the best results but for well-directed supervision and patient individual effort.

"It will be under better auspices—the best in fact that the teachers and pupils have ever enjoyed—that the next school year will open in September, when the new high school building will be ready for occupation. With the Central building vacated by the high school for the use of the grades, seven more rooms will be added to the forty already

available for pupils ranging from the primary department to the eighth grade. And of the thirty rooms in the new high school building, twenty will be available for teaching purposes, making a total of sixty-seven rooms in daily use by the grades and the high school; and every class will thus have the advantage of ample accommodations and complete facilities for every department of study—conditions such as have never before been enjoyed by either teachers or scholars.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS' TEACHERS STAFF

“It is probable that with the beginning of the next school year there will be an addition of six or seven teachers, bringing the total number above sixty, probably nearer sixty-five.

“The list of school officers, high school faculty and principals and teachers in the graded schools at present employed includes the following:

“R. S. Nichols, superintendent.

“Lelia Bruce, supervisor of music.

“Jessie Carey, supervisor of industrial work and drawing.

“High School—O. A. Harris, principal, English; Ella F. Helm, history; Josephine Sedgwick, Latin; Ella Booher, English; Mabel Gibbons, science; Jane Barber, mathematics; Martha Helm, mathematics; Clara Koch, English and history; Bessie Thomas, German; O. R. Mericle, manual training; Nettie Marvin, elocution; F. R. Chapman, commercial subjects; Alice McLain, study hall.

“Central School—Maude Latimer, principal, 8 A and B; Minnie Custis, 8 B and 7 A; Pearl Freeman, 6 B, 5 A and B; Nellie Lewis, 4 A and B; Mary Neville, 3 A and B; Mamie McEntie, 1 and 2.

“Webster School—Elizabeth Jaccard, principal, 7 B and 6 A; Kate Moran, 6 B and 5 A; Lois Harlan, 5 B and 4 A; Ethel Tucker, 4 B and 3 A; Georgia Richardson, 3 B; Nettie Bewley, 2 A and B; Edna Beard, 2 B and 1 A; Mayme Stinnett, 1 B and C.

“West Side School—Viola Bistline, 8 A and B; Florence Glenn, 7 A and B; Abba Morton, 6 A and B; Eulah Smith, 5 A and B; Lura Decatur, 4 A and B; Emma McAboy, 3 A and B; Odessa Kessler, 2 B; Isadore Eells, 2 A and 3 B; Stella McCafferty, 1 A and B; Kathryn George, principal, 1 C.

“Eugene Field School—Emma Robinson, principal, 8 A and B; Mary Hille, 7 A and B; Mollie Allen, 6 A and B; Ethel Bailey, 5 A and B; Genevieve Moses, 4 A and B; Ethel Fly, 3 A and B; Edna Frankengerger, 3 A and B; Pearl Hobart, 2 A and B; Katherine Winter, 1 A, B and C.

“Franklin School—Nellie Tibbs, principal, 7 A and B; Nellie Crow, 6 A and B; Ethel Norton, 5 A and B; Mae Buckingham, 4 A and B; Lucy Underwood, 3 A and B; Cora Martin, 2 A and B; Bertha Clark, 2 B and 1 A; Alice Carroll, 1 B and C.”



## CHURCH EDIFICES AND CHURCH WORK

The churches of Webb City have all made great progress during the last decade. Within the last two years the First M. E. church of Webb City has increased its membership from a little over two hundred to nearly seven hundred. This church is thoroughly organized. Three young women have gone out of the church and, having finished their training, are now deaconesses; also three young men from this church have been made ministers. The church is made as homelike as is possible and in that way keeps its hold on the younger members. They have at this writing a very fine choir, W. C. Pope being the musical director. The parsonage, which was recently built, cost about \$6,000. The beautiful new church was dedicated last September, without one dollar being owed on the structure. The pastor, Rev. Dean C. Dutton, is a very capable leader and has been the pastor now for three years. One of his original plans for bringing the Lord's message before the masses, embraced the Saturday night street services. With a large number of people to sing he would start his services on the crowded streets. Afterwards a tent was purchased and night services were held in this. Every member in this church has some part of its work to do. One no sooner joins it than he is assigned some definite work. This is no home of drones.

The beautiful home of the M. E. Church South, situated at the southeast corner of Joplin street and Pennsylvania avenue, was built during the summer of 1909 and was dedicated November 29th of the same year. It is considered that this church is complete in its equipment. Every department of the church work is amply provided for in its arrangement. On the ground floor are the primary Sunday school rooms; a large banquet room and kitchen which is fully equipped with all conveniences for the preparing of any meals; a library and a living room for the custodian of the church; ladies' parlors and three separate toilet rooms. On the main floor of the church are the auditorium with a large seating capacity, and the adult Sunday school room with fourteen separate class rooms and pastor's study. This church contains in all thirty separate rooms, besides the vestibules. Ben C. Aylor and his sister, Mrs. S. Nilson, presented the church with the handsome pipe organ as a memorial to their mother. The cost of the organ was \$3,500. The opera chairs with which it is seated were given by Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Chinn and cost \$2,500. Mrs. E. T. Webb provided the fixtures for the lighting of the church. Rev. Thomas J. Norsworthy has been pastor now for fifteen months and at the request of the official board was re-appointed by the bishop to serve for another year. The church has just completed one of the most successful years of its long career.

The Presbyterian church in Webb City is not large, but is well furnished, and is certainly carrying on a great work. The Presbyterian Aid Society has semi-monthly meetings on the first and third Fridays. They carry on a great amount of charity work, besides promoting the general well-being and good fellowship of the congregation. The Broth-



erhood, an organization for the men, is steadily growing. F. E. Fitner is president of this society. The Christian Endeavor of this church is as popular with the young people as the other societies are with the older members. A Home and Foreign Missionary Society has been organized, who have taken in hand besides the regular missionary work, local charity, and it is done so quietly that only those in charge of the work know anything about it. Rev. James H. Spear is the pastor and it may be due to the energetic work of the leader that all of the members and officers are so faithful.

St. Paul's Episcopal church was organized in 1899, under the combined ministrations of the rectors of Christ church, of Carthage, and St. Phillips church, of Joplin. It is under the supervision of the Southern deanery of the diocese of Kansas City, of which Dean Weed, of Joplin, is the head, and Henry Irving Batcheller is his assistant, not only here in Webb City but all over this part of the deanery. St. Paul's is the especial charge, though, of Rev. Batchellor, and services are held every Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. The Sunday school work is well founded and the teachers are energetic workers. Mrs. J. J. McClellan has the kindergarten class and is especially prepared for this work. There are four other classes. Mrs. Fred Kellogg teaches the women's class; Rev. Batchellor, the men's class; Mr. Waring, the boys', and J. E. Cobb, the girls' class. It was a long time before the present little church was owned, the society being organized in the parlor of one of the members, and then when the parlor was outgrown a hall was rented. But a church can do better work in its own building, although it is small: so the present church building was bought of another organization which had outgrown its home and was moved on the lot which had also been purchased. So the St. Paul's church, from a small beginning, is steadily growing and the future will tell how far its influence may reach.

The First Baptist church of Webb City is being remodeled and greatly enlarged to meet the requirements of its increasing congregation. It is said that when it is completed none in the county will be better. During the present disturbed condition services are held regularly in the basement. One of the energetic societies is furnishing its own class room. Rev. R. B. Kinell is the pastor and is a very interesting speaker, but is very quiet about his method of carrying on his work. Outside of the church, the public knows very little of his great work. This church has now been organized eighteen years and is steadily growing.

The Christian church was without a pastor for several months, but the place is now filled by C. E. Wagner, of Hannibal, Missouri, and a new interest has been already awakened in the congregation. Great things are expected of this church in the near future. The Christian Endeavor society has been a strong factor in the church life. The Dorcas Circle and the Missionary Society for Home and Foreign work also have taken a prominent part in its activities. This church has the distinction of having the largest Sunday school in the city.

Webb City has three other churches. The Catholic church has the

largest edifice and membership of any church in the city. Rev. Father Curran is in charge of this church.

The Christian Scientists have not built a church home yet, but they hold their meetings in the Odd Fellows hall every Wednesday night and on Sundays. These meetings are largely attended.

The Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints is rapidly growing and great interest is now taken in its work.

#### JANE CHINN HOSPITAL

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. Chas. R. Chinn, of Webb City, realized the need of a hospital in their home city. Jane Chinn Hospital is the name by which it is known and it is situated at the corner of Rose and Austin streets. It is not the largest hospital in the southwest, but is considered one of the best equipped. The cost of this hospital (which was the magnificent gift of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. R. Chinn) was \$60,000, which included not only the site, but the building and equipment. There were arrangements made for the future support of the hospital. The first board of managers selected were Dr. C. E. McBride, president; Dr. L. C. Chenoweth, first vice president; E. T. Webb, second vice president; Ben C. Aylor, third vice president; C. R. Chinn, Jr., treasurer; T. J. Roney, secretary.

Directors: George W. Ball, T. F. Coyne, A. D. Hatton, F. C. Wallower and T. F. Lennan.

Building committee: Dr. C. E. McBride, chairman; T. J. Roney, secretary; E. T. Webb, B. C. Aylor, F. C. Wallower. These men were familiar with every step of the hospital work and especially with Mr. and Mrs. Chinn's plans for the hospital work.

The plans were drawn by Frank W. Caulkins, of Webb City; John R. Thomas, of Joplin, was general contractor; John R. Schwartz, of Webb City, contractor for plumbing and heating; Fred H. Nesbitt, of Webb City, contractor for masonry work. The stone used in this building came from the Carthage Stone Company. The hospital has a front of 200 feet on Austin street and 142½ on Rose street. Its dimensions are 48 by 80 feet. It contains wards for the accommodation of twenty-three patients and ten other rooms for private cases; chemical laboratory, laundry, dining rooms for nurses, offices for doctors and nurses, sterilizing and anaesthetic rooms, morgue, retiring rooms for doctors, operating rooms, diet kitchens on both the first and second floors and every possible accessory used in a first-class hospital. It has an elevator from basement to third story. It also has a spacious sun parlor from which one can view the whole of Webb City and Cartersville and the nearby mines, and on a bright day a glimpse of the tall buildings in Joplin. The hospital is perfect in its ventilation; each partition has its own ventilating ducts, connected with a vacuum fan in the attic, discharging 300,000 cubic feet of air per hour. Until the opening of the Jane Chinn Hospital there was an organization known as the Webb City Hospital Association, the members of which were: President, T. F.

Coyne; vice president, George H. Fullerton; secretary and treasurer, F. C. Wallower; directors—A. D. Hatten, J. J. McLellan, George H. Fullerton, T. F. Coyne, T. F. Lennan, F. C. Wallower and C. R. Chinn, Sr. This board, or association, had on hand close to \$2,000 and it was turned over to the Jane Chinn Hospital as a beginning of the fund for the support of the institution. There is one thing that should be mentioned about the operating room, which is lighted at night from the ceiling by eight Mazda tolophane lights, producing 1,000 candle power light. It is so arranged by cross lighting that is impossible for shadows to be thrown in any direction; so in an emergency case the room can be used at night as well as by day. Subscriptions of twenty-five cents per month are taken from the miners, and the mine operators pay five dol-



JANE CHINN HOSPITAL, WEBB CITY

lars per month, which is enough for the running expenses of the hospital.

Miss Houser is the present superintendent of the hospital and is assisted by three nurses. There is one room in the hospital that is not used and that is the morgue, for, instead of keeping the dead at the hospital they are removed to a downtown morgue. The Chinns have made their money from Jasper county mines and the hospital is a monument to their generosity.

#### SALVATION ARMY HOSPITAL

Webb City enjoys the distinction of being one of the first cities in the west to establish a hospital to be maintained and operated by the Salvation Army. It is a matter of common knowledge—the many acts of kindness that are done by the Salvation Army—their Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to the poor of the city and their work among the sick and distressed standing out prominently. In 1905 one of Webb



City's big hearted men suggested the building of a hospital to be conducted by these good people, and money was quickly raised to build and equip a modern two-story hospital, which has since been conducted by the Salvation Army and much suffering has been relieved by them.

#### THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The Young Men's Christian Association of Webb City has been very progressive since its organization in 1900 by a few business men. The present building was put up one year after its organization for the work of the association, but for the past few years it has been found entirely too small. The scope of work carried on by this organization are three Bible classes at the Sunday afternoon services for men and boys. They use a first class moving picture machine. There are the Boy Scouts who hold their meetings once a week; the Boys' Congress Employment Bureau; and the gymnasium classes which are under the supervision of J. Gilbert Cox and have a membership of 100. There are, in the building, the bath rooms, library, public reading, rest and game rooms. The association has the honor of having sent one man to the training school for the association workers, and he is now in the field in active work. Several others are planning to take some of the work at the Young Men's Christian Association training camp at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, this summer. A debating club is about to be organized. A series of lectures and talks are given at regular intervals on vital subjects.

As stated, the Young Men's Christian Association has been a great power in Webb City since its organization and, in addition to having maintained its elegant gymnasium and reading room, has provided, through its Sunday meetings and occasional receptions, very excellent religious and moral training for the young men. To give an idea of the character of the literary spirit we note the following which was one of many meetings which helped to mould the characters of the members. In 1903 Secretary Knox arranged a series of meetings for the purpose of creating a sentiment of loyalty, and for eight consecutive Sundays the theme discussed was "Loyalty." The Rev. J. L. Sullivan spoke on "Loyalty to Your Church;" C. T. Orr on "Loyalty to Your Business;" Rev. W. P. Buckner, of Joplin, on "Loyalty to Manhood;" Rev. C. B. Boving on "Loyalty to the Home;" and Judge H. L. Bright, of Carthage, on "Loyalty to Our Country." Rev. Hall was assigned the topic "Loyalty to the Book and Church," and Secretary Knox concluded this series of talks with a telling address on "Loyalty to the Y. M. C. A."

#### THE ODD FELLOWS

The Odd Fellows lodge at Webb City during the past ten years has been one of the strongest lodges of the city and has attained distinction on account of the great proficiency and excellent manner in which the team work in the several degrees has been exemplified. In 1903 the Degree team of the Webb City lodge received the high honor of being invited by the officers of the Grand Lodge of this state to exemplify the



work before the grand body at the annual meeting at Pertle Springs. The invitation was accepted and the manner in which the Degree work was performed reflected great credit on the Webb City lodge and did much toward favorably advertising the literary character of the mining district of southwestern Missouri.

#### FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION IN 1904

America's natal day was duly celebrated in Webb City in 1904, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the thousands of people who came to take part in the festivities. The program was opened at 10:30 o'clock in the morning by a monster parade which was participated in by nearly all the fraternal orders of the place, as well as by a number of visiting societies from neighboring towns.

Prominent in the parade was a battalion of the Second Regiment, U. R. K. P., commanded by Colonel Henry Warner and the then celebrated W. O. W. drill team, under command of Captain, now Colonel, E. E. Spracklin. At sundown there was a dress parade of the several semi-military societies and this feature of the day's exercises was greatly enjoyed. The celebration was concluded at night by a pyrotechnic display.

#### GREAT WESTERN BUSINESS COLLEGE AND NORMAL SCHOOL

In the spring of 1904, Prof. W. T. Larrimore, a teacher of note, secured possession of the old Baptist College and started the Great Western Normal and Business College which flourished for a short time. In June, 1904, the school began its session with an approved summer school for teachers, the course of study having been mapped by the state superintendent and the faculty as at the Joplin Summer School the year before articulating with the state institutions, the students receiving the same credit for their work as if they had been attending one of the State Normals. The Summer School was well attended. On July 6th, the citizens of Webb City tendered to the students of the school a magnificent reception, Frank Farlow acting as master of ceremonies on the occasion of this social gathering. The college has recently been converted into a Children's Home.

#### BAND TOURNAMENT

In August, 1904, Webb City entertained the Southwestern Band Tournament. This occasion brought to the city 200 musicians and their three days' stay was a continuous round of pleasure, both to themselves and the citizens of Webb City, who turned out en masse to listen to the band concerts and witness the contests between the several organizations.

#### WEBB CITY CENTENARIAN

Among the old and highly respected citizens of Webb City, who came there during its early days, was Thomas Sauls, who lived to the ripe

old age of one hundred and three years and who until the last few years of his life had been a very active man. He was a veteran of two wars, having served in both the Mexican and Civil wars. Previous to the breaking out of the War between the States he had worked in the old air smelter at Oronogo; went with the Union citizens of Jasper county to Kansas to join the United States volunteers from the Jay Hawker state and was a member of the Sixth Kansas Cavalry.

On his one hundredth birthday, which occurred September 18, 1903, his friends and old comrades of the Sixth Kansas, eight of whom were residents of Jasper county, gave an elaborate luncheon at the Middle West Hotel in his honor. On behalf of his friends, J. C. Harrison presented to the old veteran an enlarged picture of himself, together with a silver loving cup. In addition to this little testimonial, his friends compiled an interesting biography of the distinguished guest, and after having it bound, presented it to him to hand down to posterity. Mr. Sauls had the proud distinction of having personally met and shaken hands with every president of the United States excepting Washington and Roosevelt. He had been identified with the mining interests of southwest Missouri since 1853, during which year he constructed for the Granby Company at Granby the first lead smelter that was ever built in southwest Missouri and personally smeltered the first pail of lead that was turned out from this once famous furnace.

#### A REMINISCENCE PARTY

One of the most delightful, as well as novel, events of the decade was a reminiscence party which occurred at the home of Mrs. J. C. Stewart. Mesdames J. C. Stewart and W. C. Stewart conceived the idea of entertaining the early residents of Webb City and spending an afternoon living over the early days of the city. The party was unique in this—that the guests invited were the original settlers of Webb City; those who had lived there for twenty years or more; those who came in the first hard days when Webb City was but a mining camp. The afternoon was devoted to reminiscences, each lady adding to what others told until five o'clock, when the guests were invited into the spacious dining room where a delicious luncheon was served. On returning to the parlors, old songs were sung, a Virginia reel was indulged in, and the readings and conundrums which had been in popular favor in the seventies and early eighties, were retold.

In the reminiscences the special subjects touched upon by the different ladies were as follows: Mrs. Gaston told how she came to Webb City, driving from Oronogo to that place, then a little camp and not known ten miles away. "It was not a very attractive looking place, but my husband was there and I was determined to be content; and it was not long before I learned to love Webb City and her splendid people."

Mrs. Houser reviewed the Blunt riot. Mrs. Overstreet told of the early settlers, among whom were Prof. Dicky, superintendent of schools,

Mrs. J. C. Stewart teaching in same. Mrs. Henderson had the only millinery store and her home was the headquarters for all the social life of the town.

Mr. Wheatley had the lumber yard. Among other old citizens mentioned were: Mr. John C. Webb and family, Mr. Ed Hall and family, Judge Robinson, Chas. Metcalf, Paul Grove, Jas. Campbell, Volney Moon, A. A. Hulett and family, A. W. McCorkle and family, and many others so numerous that space forbids mention.

Mrs. Wright told of the stores she remembered, among which were Mr. Manker's grocery store, Hall's drug store, Lowe's furniture store, Mansfield grocery store, and Chris and Charlie Columbia's grocery store.

Mrs. McBride, in speaking of the schools, said the school house of four rooms stood on the site of the High school.

Mrs. Thomas, in speaking of the hotels, mentioned the Pacific, the Transit House and the Buffalo Hotel. Mrs. Henderson had an excellent boarding house and also Mrs. Miller.

Mrs. Murray told of the churches. She said the first services were in the Webb Hall which stood where the Webb City bank now stands. Union services these were. The Presbyterians then bought a store building which was the first church in the city.

Rev. D. K. Campbell was the first preacher. The M. E. church South was erected twenty-two years ago, and was given by Mr. John C. Webb, the father of our present townsman.

Mrs. Mock spoke of the newspapers of that day. Mrs. Chinn, in her inimitable manner, told of the parties. Mrs. Wheatley told of the music and brought in some interesting and amusing incidents of the Stevenson-Wheatley quartette.

Mrs. S. L. Manker spoke of the babies and children of those early settlers most entertainingly. Mrs. Spurgin gave a well written paper on the mines.

This was the first of a series of receptions to be given by the hostesses.

#### COMPANY I, SECOND REGIMENT, N. G. M.

Company I was organized in 1908. Its first captain was Charles F. Chenoweth, who had seen service in the Spanish-American war and who during his long residence in Webb City had been a most popular young man. Mr. Chenoweth's military knowledge and popularity built up a large company composed of the best young men in Webb City and, by careful attention and constant drill, the company soon attained a high state of proficiency. In 1910, Captain Chenoweth retired from the company and was succeeded by Charles D. Smith. The following are the present officers of the command: Captain, Charles D. Smith; first lieutenant, Fred Nesbitt; second lieutenant, Chas. R. Chinn. Dr. Lawrence F. Cooke, formerly of Company —, was appointed by Colonel Raup in 1910 to be major-surgeon of the Second Regiment.

## NEWSPAPERS OF WEBB CITY

Webb City has been very fortunate during the past decade in the matter of newspapers. Both the *Record* and the *Sentinel* being thoroughly up-to-date newspapers. They have been ably edited and, in addition to having chronicled the news of the day, have editorially championed and advocated a larger, a better and a more beautiful Webb City. The many modern business blocks which have been built during the past five years are tributes to the agitation of these two papers for a bigger Webb City.

## THE "CARTERVILLE RECORD"

The *Carterville Record*, edited by B. Shelton, was founded January 25, 1900, and has had a successful career, both financially and in the matter of popularity. The paper has given a newsy account of the happenings of this important mining town and has advocated a great many public improvements. Largely on account of the editorials in this paper advocating city improvements and out-of-door beautification, the city of Carterville built ten miles of sidewalks and otherwise made extensive improvements, not only for the comfort of the citizens but to the beauty of the city.



## COMPARATIVE POPULATION FOR TWENTY YEARS.

Minor Civil Division	1910	1900	1890
<b>Jasper County</b> .....	<b>89,673</b>	<b>84,018</b>	<b>50,500</b>
Duval township, including part of Neck City .....	1,026	1,092	970
Neck City (part of) .....	157	.....	.....
Total for Neck City in Duval and Mineral townships ..	528	374	.....
Galena township, including Joplin city .....	34,694	32,976	4,360
Joplin city .....	32,073	26,023	9,943
Ward 1 .....	4,225	.....	.....
Ward 2 .....	6,069	.....	.....
Ward 3 .....	2,795	.....	.....
Ward 4 .....	6,144	.....	.....
Ward 5 .....	3,187	.....	.....
Ward 6 .....	4,294	.....	.....
Ward 7 .....	3,643	.....	.....
Ward 8 .....	1,716	.....	.....
Jackson township .....	1,489	1,678	1,315
Jasper township .....	982	1,175	955
Joplin township, including Carterville city and Webb City ..	21,867	18,499	9,731
Carterville city .....	4,539	4,445	2,884
Ward 1 .....	1,318	.....	.....
Ward 2 .....	2,136	.....	.....
Ward 3 .....	1,085	.....	.....
Webb City .....	11,817	9,201	5,043
Ward 1 .....	1,713	.....	.....
Ward 2 .....	1,860	.....	.....
Ward 3 .....	1,801	.....	.....
Ward 4 .....	2,505	.....	.....
Ward 5 .....	2,240	.....	.....
Ward 6 .....	1,698	.....	.....
Lincoln township .....	665	721	821
McDonald township .....	1,156	1,203	1,205
Madison township .....	1,066	1,184	1,248
Marion township, including Carthage city .....	11,483	11,056	9,323
Carthage city .....	9,483	9,416	7,981
Ward 1 .....	1,417	.....	.....
Ward 2 .....	1,714	.....	.....
Ward 3 .....	2,221	.....	.....
Ward 4 .....	2,122	.....	.....
Ward 5 .....	2,009	.....	.....
Mineral township, including Oronogo and Purcell cities and part of Neck City .....	5,946	4,646	2,145
Neck City (part of) .....	371	374	.....
Oronogo city .....	1,912	2,073	.....
Ward 1 .....	1,109	.....	.....
Ward 2 .....	803	.....	.....
Purcell city .....	994	.....	.....
Preston township, including Jasper city .....	1,518	1,597	1,365
Jasper city .....	664	627	400
Sarcozie township, including Larussel, Reeds, and Sarcozie cities .....	3,245	3,335	2,532
Larussell city .....	261	.....	.....
Reeds city .....	298	.....	.....
Sarcozie city .....	1,311	1,126	1,172
Sheridan township .....	819	851	955
Twin Groves township, including Carl Junction city .....	2,479	2,628	2,323
Carl Junction city .....	1,115	1,177	699
Ward 1 .....	416	.....	.....
Ward 2 .....	699	.....	.....
Union township .....	1,238	1,377	1,309





















